

## Mr Haughey tries to coax Ulster 'loyalists'

Republic had no wish to take over Ireland, Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Minister, told the Dail in Dublin yesterday, giving his first detailed public explanation of his role in the Fianna Fail policy for a United Ireland.

## Westminster initiative but dismissed

Mr Haughey, the Minister of the Irish Republic, said in a speech yesterday that he was not in a position to accept the Westminster initiative. He said that the Irish Government was not in a position to accept the initiative because it was not a genuine initiative. He said that the initiative was a mere attempt to divide the Irish people. He said that the Irish Government was not in a position to accept the initiative because it was not a genuine initiative. He said that the initiative was a mere attempt to divide the Irish people. He said that the Irish Government was not in a position to accept the initiative because it was not a genuine initiative. He said that the initiative was a mere attempt to divide the Irish people.



Mr Jordan: In a critical condition after operation.

## Civil rights leader shot outside hotel

From Michael Leptman New York, May 29  
Mr Vernon Jordan, president of the National Urban League and one of the most prominent black leaders in America, was shot early today. He was wounded in the back and pelvis as he stepped from a car outside a hotel in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was in critical condition in hospital today after a four-hour operation.

Although local officials said that there was no evidence that the shooting was racially motivated, there is a clear parallel with the murder in Tennessee in 1968 of the Reverend Martin Luther King, also a moderate black leader. Dr King was also shot at a hotel just after addressing a meeting on black rights and progress.

Mr Jordan, aged 44, became head of the Urban League in 1972, succeeding Mr Whitney Young, who had died in 1971. He has gained a reputation as a practical and realistic leader, concentrating on lobbying for legislation aimed at improving the position of blacks, rather than on organizing mass demonstrations.

Mr Jordan had been driven back to his hotel by Miss Martha Coleman, a member of the Fort Wayne Urban League, just before 1 a.m. After he was shot, she heard a thud, "like a rock hitting the windshield" and turned to see Mr Jordan fall, shot in the back.

A guest at the hotel said he heard Mr Jordan shouting: "Help me, somebody, help me." He was leaning on the back of the car. Police said later that the shot was fired by a sniper firing from a bank of grass near the hotel. The motive could have been a possible domestic type thing.

## Almost all ministries in Kabul now have Soviet officials issuing the instructions Russians strengthen their control over Afghan regime

This second and final article on the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan describes how Moscow has strengthened its control over the Afghan Government. The article is based on information compiled by the United States Administration from American diplomatic and intelligence sources.

The Afghan regime is beset by fierce rivalry among its component factions, while Moscow has strengthened its control over most government departments. "The Afghan Government as such no longer operates at all," says one American Administration official. "The Soviets are in charge of virtually everything."

According to one United States Government analysis, Soviet officials occupy the senior official positions in every Afghan ministry except the Foreign Ministry where they hold the post of deputy director. Coordination among the various Afghan deputies is said to be poor because of the dominant roles played by their Soviet superiors and perhaps also because of Afghan fears that they might be attacked if they are physically too close to Soviet officials. "All decisions are Soviet and most Afghan civil servants simply sit at their desks and collect their pay cheques," the analysis comments.

The "most blatantly Soviet-dominated" of all the government departments is the Ministry of Information and Culture. Virtually all information releases are being produced by Soviet staff and Russians have been assigned as editors of Afghan newspapers.

Soon after the December revolution, Soviet advisers were assigned to the Afghan educational system and began preparing new textbooks. Since then several thousand students have gone to the Soviet Union and East European countries, and Russia is fast becoming the nation's second language. Moreover, training of military and police officials in the Soviet Union has continued unabated since the occupation and Moscow is "clearly developing a

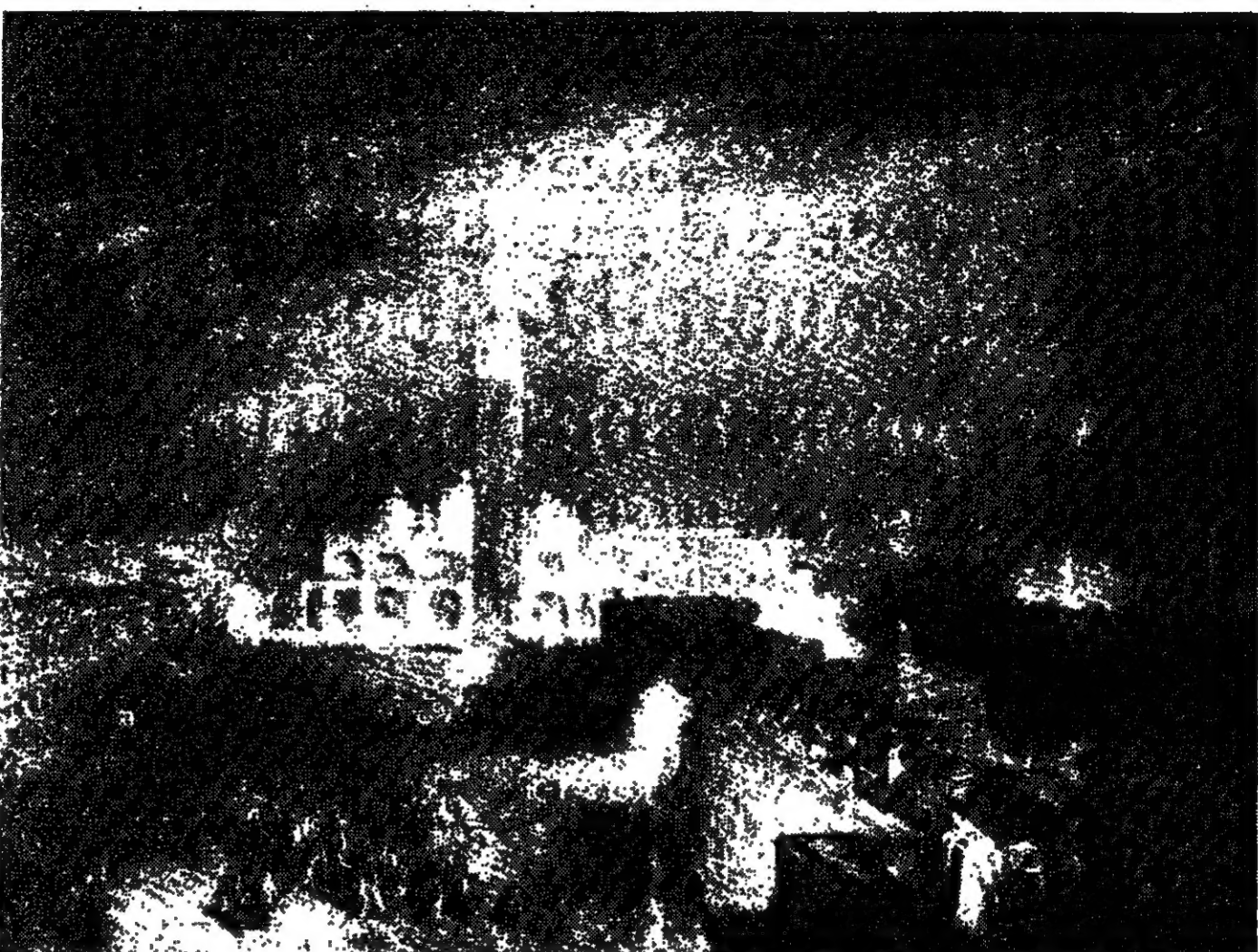
Continued on page 7, col 7

## All flights by domestic airline suspended

Delhi, May 29.—The Afghan Government has suspended domestic airline flights in the wake of mounting insurgency, Press Trust of India news agency reported today. The agency added that Soviet and Afghan government troops were in firm control of

all the main airports, including Kabul, Bagram and Shidan.

The suspension of flights was ordered although ambushes have resulted in a sharp decline in road traffic. The agency said "extraordinary" troop and aircraft movements had been observed at Kabul, with an increasing use of giant Ilyushin 76 and Antonov 22 transport aircraft capable of lifting huge loads. MiG fighter aircraft had also been seen.—Agence France-Press.



## Sanctions orders could ease trade with Iran

By Fred Emery Political Editor

In a further surprise weakening of the Government's handling of sanctions against Iran, the order allows existing contracts to be "modified, amplified and extended" after today; and, it will also allow a Department of Trade note to British exporters making explicit "new contracts for sale or supply made in continuation of an established course of business dealing between the same parties, relating to goods of the same or similar class, and which existed immediately before that date."

That is clear from the two Orders in Council implementing the sanctions which came into effect at midnight last night after being laid before Parliament.

Officials last night admitted that Britain's trade with Iran had actually increased, in spite of the sanctions last month it leapt to \$36.2m worth, after erratic ups and downs in the past few months. They reckoned, however, that the sanctions ought at least to check the growth.

The reason for the sanctions being weaker than intended, or provided for in the recently passed Iran Temporary Powers Act, is, according to officials, that Britain did not intend to include the sanctions last month. The Act had specifically provided powers to ban service contracts but once it was discovered that Britain's EEC partners had no intention of including the sanctions, Britain too, decided to drop them.

The recent furor in the Commons had concerned the Government's abortive attempt to backdate the sanctions. As a result, existing contracts, such as Talbot's £150m car kits deal, were safeguarded. However, no

minister suggested that a loophole would be left open where by future contracts could also escape sanctions.

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Last night officials were unable to supply a reference in a ministerial speech in the Commons debates which had shadowed this weakening. What the United States Administration might make of the development was left to speculation.

But Mr Tam Dalyell, the MP who had fought the Government in the sanctions debate, said last night he was not the least surprised.

"It proves once again that they did not believe in the policy. People who believed in the policy would not have allowed for that," Mr Dalyell said.

This is what happens when people get involved in gesture politics," he said of the allies' half-hearted attempt to show solidarity over Iran's seizure of the American Embassy hostages. What the new orders will prohibit are, essentially, new exporters seeking to enter the Iran trade.

## York chase ends in Gallagher arrest

From Our Correspondent York

Henry Gallagher, the fugitive prisoner, was recaptured yesterday after a vicar's wife at St Chad's, York, alerted the police when he came to her door at 9.35 a.m.

When police spoke to him he jumped on to the back of a moving lorry for a few hundred yards, then ran across a railway line. Other police cornered him in a back garden.

Sergeant Arthur Sowden said he told him: "OK, you've got me," when he was arrested. He was "quiet and peaceful after that," the sergeant said.

At a press conference later Supt Harold Poller said that Mr Gallagher had not committed any offences in York and was being taken to Kent.

Mrs Dorothy Hall, who answered a knock at the door of St Chad's vicarage soon after breakfast, said: "He asked 'Can I wash your husband's car?' but I told him my husband always cleans his own car and that he was out in it. I closed the door and watched him walk away towards York Racecourse."

He spoke with a Scottish accent, was wearing dark blue jeans, a white sweater and white plimsolls, "but what really gave him away was his shaven head," she said.

After about 10 minutes she telephoned the police and other vicarages, including the Roman Catholic presbytery of the English Martyrs' Church in Dalston Terrace about three-quarters of a mile away.

The priest in charge, Fr Hugh Curristan, said: "Tramps come here every day for food and clothing but he was not one of our regulars. All the regulars come to the back door, but he rang the front doorbell so we did not open it." Mrs Hall's telephone call came soon after.

Just as we were about to telephone the police, we saw a police car on the road outside and the man panicked. He walked away and the police followed him."

He ran across the main York to Edinburgh line, south of York Station, and more police were brought into the area. Eventually Mr Gallagher was arrested in the garden of a widow, Mrs Anne Glesher, aged 55, in Barbara Grove.

She said: "I saw this deathly white man, who looked terrified as three policemen closed in on him. He struggled but within seconds the police overpowered him."

Mr Gallagher failed to return to Maidstone prison after week-end leave just over two weeks ago.

He is wanted for questioning in connection with the murder of Fr Edward Hull, aged 87, a Benedictine monk, who was found battered to death at his home in Ramsgate last Friday.

The monk's housekeeper, Miss Maude Lelan, aged 73, died two days later.

## Turner's 'Juliet and her nurse', which was sold by Sotheby's in New York yesterday for \$6.4m (£2,729,000), a record for a single painting. It measures 3ft by 4ft and was first exhibited at the Royal Academy exhibition in 1836. Although the painting was bought anonymously, the buyer is believed to be a woman, a private collector from Argentina. A newcomer to the market, she is said to have arrived in New York with \$60m to spend on art and has already secured works by Gauguin and Van Gogh. Details, page 8.

## East meets West to seek church reunion

From Mario Modiano Athens, May 29

A theological dialogue to end the division between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches was formally dedicated today in an Orthodox service on Patmos, the Dodecanese island where St John the Divine received his revelation.

The religious service, attended by the prominent prelates and theologians of the two churches who will sit on the mixed commission of the dialogue, was celebrated in the church of the hilltop monastery of Patmos, dedicated to St John nine centuries ago and strongly fortified against Saracen raids.

It was conducted by Metropolitan Meliton of Chalcidion, who was there as the special envoy of the Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios I, the host of the meeting, as the island comes under his spiritual suzerainty. In his inaugural address he emphasized that the ultimate aim of the dialogue was to bring about total Christian unity and even convey a message of unity to non-Christians.

The purpose of the dialogue, according to Metropolitan Meliton, was not a limited Christian unity of Roman Catholics and Orthodox. "It must be a 'testimony of Jesus' within and without Christendom, to all nations, to the whole world, to the whole creation," he said.

This was not only the will of the Lord and the need of the Church, but also the requirement of the present times and the expectation of Christians and non-Christians, the bishop added.

In his reply, Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, president of the Vatican's Secretariat for Christian Unity, emphasized that the diversity which existed among local churches, was a gift of God and should be preserved even in unity.

It was a significant statement for some of the most conservative Orthodox churches, which fear that the price of an east-west reunion would be the elimination of the individuality of the Orthodox churches.

The cardinal said the rupture of the churches, more than 900 years ago, had come about as a result of "sins and errors".

Continued on page 7, col 2

## in yields on EEC farm prices g way to budget accord

Hornsby

Four-year scheme will involve precisely the kind of expensive stockpiling and artificial proping-up of market prices responsible for the beef and butter mountains.

In a parallel meeting in Brussels today, foreign ministers of the Nine attempted to break the damaging deadlock over the budget. They were aware that yet another failure could lead to the disintegration of the Community.

The talks got under way with an opening offer from the French and West Germans which was worse from the British point of view, both as to the amount of money and the strings attached, than what Mrs Margaret Thatcher rejected in Luxembourg. But the duration of the financial relief on offer was slightly better.

The offer was regarded by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, as a modestly encouraging opening bid, even if unacceptable as it stood.

It would reduce Britain's net contribution by £670m in 1980 and by £720m in 1981. The European Commission would be instructed to come forward during 1981 with proposals for a further reduction in 1982.

On the basis of present forecasts, the new offer would imply a net contribution for Britain of up to £490m (compared with more than £1,100m as things stand), and between £635m and £655m in 1981 (compared with more than £1,400m if no action were taken).

Lord Carrington countered with a formula that would have the effect of holding the British net contribution in 1980 to the £325m proposed in Luxembourg and would imply a net contribution next year of between £380m and £460m. This was more or less what Mrs Thatcher held out for in vain last month.

## ore cash, hatcher ie nurses

Native have been told that the Government is more than the 14 per cent. The nurses are treatment with doctors, Williams, leader of the saw the Prime Minister, ally of industrial action ever before. Individual e to decide what action

## Laggers in threat to widen Grain strike

The executive of the General and Municipal Workers' Union will be urged tonight to call an indefinite strike of about 500 power station laggers if TUC talks fail to settle the Isle of Grain dispute within two weeks. A call for an immediate strike was deferred. Page 2

## Playboy charity aid

Mr Victor Lowmes, chairman and managing director of the Playboy Club in London, bought nearly 500 of the 1,370 pictures within an hour of the Royal Academy summer exhibition's private view opening yesterday. He spent an estimated £100,000 to help a society for handicapped children. Page 4

## Mr Carter in trouble

President Carter has managed to annoy the Democratic leaders of both Houses of Congress by backing liberal members who oppose congressional amendments to next year's Budget. Page 8

## As you were—in khaki

After extensive trials and an opinion poll by the Army Board, Britain's soldiers have rejected proposed new bottle green uniforms in favour of traditional khaki. Page 2

## Appeal to City for £500m arts fund

Banks and other City institutions are being asked by Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Minister for the Arts, to contribute large amounts of money towards a £500m trust fund for the arts. The clearing banks, which made heavy "windfall" profits last year and could be expected to provide the bulk of the contribution from private business, are showing little enthusiasm. Page 17

## Bigger airport: Plans to build a new terminal at Eindhoven, Birmingham, have been approved by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

## Fishing protest: Britain's fishermen are to stage protests about lack of government action to restrict cheap imports.

## Cape Town: South African police confirmed for shooting children.

## Classified advertisements: Personal, 26-28; Appointments, 12, 25, 26; Car buyers' guide, 26.

Leader page, 15	Letters: On inflation from Mr R. C. Wilson, and others; secondary union activity, from the Director General of the Institute of Directors; parole for prisoners, from Lord Longford	Leading articles: Greece and Nato; Isle of Grain; Mr Richardson and parole	Features, pages 12, 14	Geoffrey Smith on tomorrow's special Labour Party conference; Philip Howard on a century of women doctors; Robert Fisk looks at the hard times the United Nations forces are having in Lebanon	Sport, pages 10, 11	Cricket: West Indies beat England by 24 runs in the Prudential Trophy; Rugby Union: Cheering news for Lions over Cotton; Tennis: Twelve players fined in French championships	Arts, page 13	David Robinson reviews James Caan's debut as a director, <i>Hide in Plain Sight</i> , and other new films in London; John Russell Taylor on the Royal Academy Summer Show; Michael Leptman on Kate Simon's book <i>Fifth Avenue</i> ; John Green-hugh interview with Kirill Kondrashin	Obituary, page 16	Mr John Haslegrave, Sir Charles Clee	Business News, pages 17-24	Stock Markets: Equities rallied after favourable profits from Courtrooms and Bochart; Gilt saw further profit taking. The FT Index rose 1.2 to 417.8	Financial Editor: Beecham comes back on course: UBM lessons learnt
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## nel planners

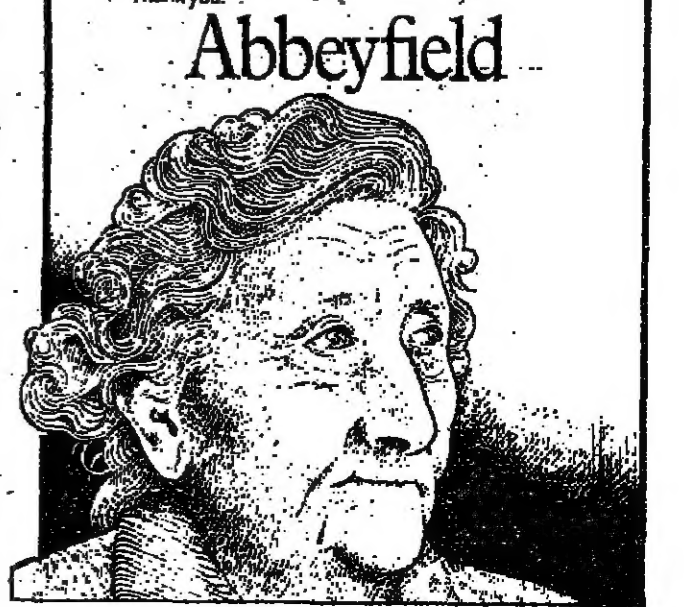
Il, former Labour Secretary, and Sir Richard the actor, producer and appointed chairman of the panel to planning of the fourth tel. Page 2

## Bill stands

t is to stand firm on the employment Bill despite a Tory back- called for tougher dary blacking and sym- Page 2

## Where do you go when you're orphaned at 75?

When you're 75 and you've lost your family, your future can look bleak and lonely. This is where Abbeyfield can help. Abbeyfield is a registered charity, run almost entirely by voluntary workers, which cares for the elderly in a uniquely imaginative way. We buy family houses and convert them to provide accommodation for seven or eight elderly men and women. The residents of our houses have their own rooms with their own furniture, where they can go for privacy. Yet they live among friends in a cheerful community, looked after by a full-time housekeeper. Many have found happiness and security in old age with Abbeyfield. But each of our 750 houses has a waiting list. We need your help urgently to buy and equip more houses. Please, won't you send a donation today? £2 can buy a bedside alarm buzzer, £10 helps towards special handrails on the stairs, £25 can help us install fire precautions, and £100 is a significant contribution towards the purchase of a new house. Make out your cheque/postal order for however much you can spare and send it to Abbeyfield National Headquarters, Room 5A, 35B High Street, Putney, London SW15. If you would like to know more about legacies and making your donation go further with a covenant, please write enclosing an S.A.E. Thank you.





## HOME NEWS

## Action threat after Mrs Thatcher rejects nurses' pay claim

By Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told nurses' representatives at Downing Street yesterday that the Government would not pay anything more than the 14 per cent already offered.

Mr David Williams, leader of the nurses' delegation and chairman of the staff side of their negotiating body, said after the meeting that the possibility of industrial action was greater than ever.

A team of 12 representatives was invited to meet the Prime Minister after the breakdown of talks in the Nurses and Midwives Whitley Council on Tuesday.

The nurses are demanding equal treatment with the doctors, who have been given a pay increase of 18.7 per cent for last year's inflation. Nurses have been told that they must stay within the Government's cash limits.

"Mrs Thatcher told us that as far as the Government is concerned they have honoured all their pledges by making money available to pay the Clegg award," Mr Williams said. In the present pay round she says we have received 20 per cent because of the reduction in hours from 40 to 37.

"But we do not accept her arithmetic. The Clegg commission made its recommendations on the basis of a 37-hour week, so the Government is counting its pennies twice."

They reminded Mrs Thatcher of the sympathetic references she made to nurses in opposition and since taking office.

"We compared our treatment with that of the doctors, the Armed Forces and police, all of whom were allowed to break cash limits. Her attitude was that the Government had looked very sympathetically at nurses and that they had a problem with public sector pay."

The Royal College of Nursing is to hold an emergency council meeting next week to organize a ballot on its policy of no industrial action and the national executive committee of the Confederation of Health Service Employees is meeting on June 15 to decide what action to recommend to its national conference starting that week.

The National Union of Public Employees yesterday urged its 75,000 nurses and midwife members to set up local committees with other unions to consider whether to take industrial action over the pay claim.

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, said after the meeting that the Government had come into office with two promises for the health service, to honour the recommendations of the doctors' and dentists' review body and the Clegg commission, and it had done both.

This time last year the total money for nurses was £1,600m; it was now £2,400m. There had been a reduction in nurses' hours, which had cost another £16m.

"We hope the nurses will realize that we have kept our word to them. We have now offered to have immediate talks with them to collect together all their problems."

## Pressure for tougher unions Bill resisted

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The Government has decided to stand firm against vigorous pressure from backbench Conservative MPs who want the Employment Bill further to restrict secondary picketing and sympathy strikes.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, does not intend to put down an amended version of clause 16 of the Bill, which was inserted in the wake of the House of Lords decision on MacShane v Express Newspapers.

Employment ministers are understood to be satisfied with the limits on secondary picketing and sympathy strikes set by the Bill, despite protests from members of the 1922 Committee of backbenchers.

The Bill is now going through the Lords, and in the absence of a Government-sponsored amendment, the Conservative dissenters will have to find a sympathetic peer to table a stronger version of clause 16, which limits immunity for such action to first customers and suppliers of firms in dispute.

Ministers are taking comfort from an impressive performance by Mr Prior at a private meeting of the Independent Unionist Peers, the Lords' equivalent of the 1922 Committee.

The Employment Secretary defended his cautious approach to the reform of industrial relations law, and won strong support.

The latest revolt by critics of the Government's legislative intentions came after a confidential TUC document on the Bill had been published in *The Times*. The document pointed out that under the legislation proposed at present some secondary picketing and sympathy strikes will continue to enjoy immunity from civil actions for damages.

Having studied what they know of the TUC's appraisal, Mr Prior's advisers have come to the conclusion that the unions have not found a loophole, but are looking for ways of frustrating the law without breaking it.

## Fourth TV channel consultants appointed

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Edmund Dell, former Labour MP and Secretary of State for Trade, has been appointed to the part-time £15,000-a-year post as chairman of the panel of consultants to assist in the planning of the fourth television channel.

His deputy, at half the salary, will be Sir Richard Attenborough, the actor, producer and director, who is chairman of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and of Capital Radio, the London commercial station.

They are named as "consultants" but that is a technicality pending the enactment of the Broadcasting Bill going through Parliament.

Mr Dell, aged 58, is chairman and chief executive of the Guinness Peat Group.

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Mr Edmund Dell (right) and Sir Richard Attenborough after their appointment to the fourth channel panel yesterday.

He said yesterday at a press conference at the Independent Broadcasting Authority, whose chairman, Lady Plowden, announced the appointments, that they would be trying to break some new ground in television and not following "the same patterns of the panel games and quiz shows."

He added: "We are guardians of the aspirations of the many people who feel they have not had the opportunity yet."

Mr Dell, whose interest in television is mainly in news and discussion programmes, such as *Life on Earth* and *Opportunity*, said they would be having consultations with groups that had an interest in how the channel would develop. Decisions could be taken when the potential board members were appointed.

He agreed with Sir Richard that it was not impossible to reconcile the need to cater for minorities and to be popular as well. *Life on Earth* was intended for a minority but had widespread popular appeal.

## TUC talks face threat to widen Grain strike

By Donald MacIntyre  
Labour Reporter

GMWU leaders are still thought to be hopeful that Mr Murray can convene a fresh meeting, probably involving the electricity board, the Thermal Insulation Contractors' Association and all unions represented at the Isle of Grain to heal the deep inter-union rift.

Some senior electricity board members are thought to take the view that no useful further purpose could be served by a new meeting with the TUC on the grounds that the board made its final position clear at the time of Mr Murray's last peace initiative in March.

While the board might not refuse to attend such a meeting, there was no evidence last night that it intends to retract its insistence that the open-ended bonus system for laggards should be scrapped.

However, Mr Frank Earl, a GMWU national officer, said yesterday that he believed that if the strike went ahead in a fortnight it would have a "hell of an effect" not only at five electricity board sites under construction, but at a larger number of sites at which GMWU laggards are engaged on maintenance work.

Mr John Baldwin, general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' construction section, wrote to Mr Murray last night saying his union would be prepared to accept a joint meeting on the issue provided that it was directed at achieving a site agreement for the Isle of Grain which would produce a common system of bonus rates for all craftsmen.

Leading article, page 15

## Benn attack on power of leader

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

Labour's left wing today launches a frontal assault on the power structure within the party with a call from Mr Wedgwood Benn that the whole party should seek to take power when Labour wins a general election.

Under the present system, he says, the leader's power is enormous. It is an elected monarchy with the patronage of making ministers, imposing conditions on ministers in the name of collective responsibility, sacking them, and then when they get old, making them peers.

Mr Benn's comments are in a pamphlet issued by seven groups on the left of the party who are holding a "mobilize for Labour democracy" rally at the special party conference at the Wembley Conference Centre, London, tomorrow.

None of this is contrary to parliamentary democracy, he says. I am not arguing, and I don't think anyone should argue, that this system replaces parliamentary democracy.

Every Labour candidate, he says, should sign that he supports the party's general election manifesto. That was not a new innovation because it was done in the direct elections for the European Parliament. "We wouldn't endorse any candidate for the European election until they had signed that they supported the manifesto."

Mr Benn criticises the system whereby Cabinet members are not told about Cabinet committees they are not on and that they are not allowed to circulate papers to the Cabinet about the committees, which the Prime Minister does not wish to see.

"Labour MPs are not consulted about government policy in advance," he says. "The Cabinet should consult the party, the party should consult the people, and the people should elect the government."

The groups which have combined to form the "Rank and File Mobilizing Committee" are: Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, Campaign for Independent Labour Public Relations, Institute for Workers' Control, Labour Coordinating Committee, National Organization of Labour Students, and Socialist Campaigns for a Labour Victory.

## Kielland type platform delayed for check

By John Huxley

Additional safety work and checks are being carried out on the Drillmaster rig being converted into a production platform for British Petroleum's North Sea oil operations.

The rig is of the French pentagon construction type, similar to the Alexander L. Kielland, which was lost in Norwegian waters in March with the loss of 123 lives.

Drillmaster, a semisubmersible rig (Pentagon No 83), is being converted into a floating production platform, to be called Buchan Alpha, at Lewis Offshore's yard in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.

Work began two years ago and was due to be completed in time for a completion ceremony on June 9, with Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, the principal guest. The ceremony has been postponed, and according to an official of Fred Olsen, owner of Lewis Offshore, it will not take place for two months.

He explained that the delay was caused by the more rigorous safety checks ordered after the Norwegian disaster and the need to carry out additional safety work.

Buchan Alpha is said by Lewis Offshore to be the first big floating production platform for the North Sea.

## Snatched boy handed over in Belfast

From Our Correspondent

The Glasgow boy snatched from a Roman Catholic orphanage on Sunday was surrendered to the Belfast police yesterday by his father, Mr Raymond Platt.

The boy, aged 10, was removed from the Nazareth House orphanage at Eldin, outside Edinburgh, by members of a Protestant militant group. They had been hidden by the Ulster Defence Association.

The police said a warrant had been issued for the father's arrest under the Social Work Act (Scotland), 1968. He would be held in custody with his son until Scottish police officers arrived from Glasgow.

At a UDA press conference in Belfast on Tuesday Mr Platt said the boy had been taken from the home because he thought his son was being indoctrinated.

## Bail for boxer on assault charge

John L. Gardner, the British and European heavyweight boxing champion, yesterday elected trial at the Inner London crown court on an assault charge. He was allowed bail by the Old Street magistrate, who said it would be months before the case came up.

Mr Gardner, aged 27, of Winston Road, Stoke Newington, north London, has denied a charge of causing actual bodily harm to a wine merchant in Old Street, City, on April 2.

## Safety is prime parole aim, board chief says

By Stewart Tendler  
Crime Reporter

The safety of the community is the most important factor in giving prisoners parole, Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, said yesterday as he defended the system amid the controversy over the case of Mr Charles Richardson, the former London gang leader.

Yesterday morning *The Times* published a letter from Mr Richardson, who absconded from an open prison last week, in which he expressed his frustration at being refused parole seven times during the 14 years he has been in prison, and argued that he was ready to be released.

Interviewed on the BBC radio programme, *The World at One*, Lord Harris did not comment specifically on the case, which he said he had not personally dealt with, but explained how prisoners' progress to parole is examined.

Cases were passed from a parole board to the main board, where each case was examined by a panel of four drawn from a membership which includes the judiciary, probation officers, psychiatrists and people from more general backgrounds.

They examine the circumstances of the original offence against reports prepared by prison staff, welfare staff and probation officers. In a case like Mr Richardson's, where the trial judge commented that only time in prison would change his attitudes, Lord Harris said such a remark would be balanced against signs of progress shown by such things as an Open University course.

Lord Harris pointed out that the "whole purpose of parole is to allow a prisoner premature release from prison so that he can continue to serve his sentence in the community."

The letter yesterday roused responses from a number of groups connected with the welfare of prisoners. Mr Martin Wright, director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, said that Mr Richardson was probably speaking for many long-term prisoners who feared the effects of years in prison.

He added that a working party was reviewing the parole system and might well take into account Mr Richardson's case. Leading article, letter, page 15.

## Soldiers 'No' to bottle green battledress

By Henry Shanks  
Defence Correspondent

Plans to dress a bottle green uniform, which has been abandoned by the Board after extensive consultation, have been rejected in favour of a khaki by troops in the field.

The plan was to have No 1 para blue dress for ceremonial duties, No 2 khaki dress, parade and when out, in favour of the green uniform. That looked smart enough on the parade ground.

An infantry battalion company of the Royal Police were fitted with some new rig, and 6, for once, however, the signal for "stop" was to remain the same. No 2 dress to be better in weight, lighter in weight, present one, but still.

For quartermasters a relief. For one thing, it was a relief. For one thing, it was a relief. For one thing, it was a relief.

The Army dress meets three times a year, the application of different coloured braid, or sweater or, hence, while the colour of an Army main dark blue, it was khaki. The Special Forces, the Light Green, the Parachute maroon, the Royal chocolate, the Royal black, the Army sky blue and the 1 Corps a fetching cypripedium.

The Royal Corps have dark blue and Royal Hampshire black, the Cheshires the Intelligence Co. Khaki, however, remained the Army colour since the Boe

## Future of R Catholic pu school secu

By a Staff Reporter

The Future of Priory school in Bath, a closure because of staff among the Co. of Christian Brothers, it has been seen.

An announcement said that the admin the college and of it tory school in Crick shire, would be trans new body of trustee Duke of Norfolk as

The handover will be played by August ne which time the next tion will have app headmasters a Cath lain and all necessa replace the Christian

## Pay dispute at Labour headquarters settled

By Ian Bradley

The pay dispute among full-time workers at the Labour Party's headquarters at Transport House in London was settled yesterday. Members of the three main unions involved voted overwhelmingly to accept an offer of a 20 per cent rise and a study of comparability with TUC staff, with 2 per cent on account.

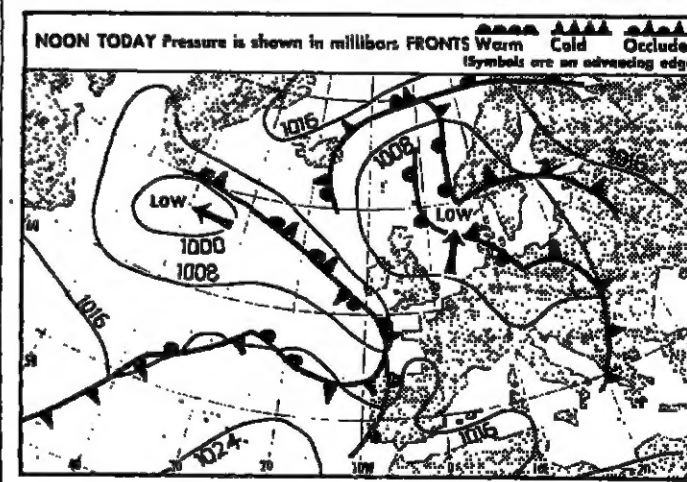
Members of the Transport and General Workers' Union voted by 34 to 7 in favour of the package, and those in the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff by 26 to 0. Members of the National Union of Journalists also voted unanimously in favour.

Explaining why the staff had dropped their earlier claim for a 32 per cent increase, Mr Nicholas Sigler, chairman of the staff side of the negotiating committee, said: "There was obviously no hope of getting any more than we had been offered, and we felt it was right to settle on a realistic basis."

The settlement of the dispute means that tomorrow's one-day Labour Party conference at Wembley will go ahead with the full cooperation of the 100 or so full-time staff who normally work in Transport House.

Journalists and clerical staff have lifted the sanctions they had been imposing in connection with the organization of the conference, but it will inevitably be difficult to catch up on the delays already incurred.

## Weather forecast and recordings



# Today

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
4.51 am	9.5 pm
Moon sets:	Moon rises:
5.41 am	9.30 pm

**Last Quarter: June 6.**  
**Lighting up:** 9.36 pm to 4.20 am.  
**High Water:** London Bridge, 2.54 am, 6.8m; 3.12 pm, 7.0m. Avonmouth, 8.22 am, 12.5m; 3.40 pm, 12.8m. Dover, 12.1 am, 6.3m; 12.22 pm, 6.3m. Hull, 7.19 am, 5.0m; 7.38 pm, 5.9m. Liverpool, 12.11 am, 8.3m; 12.27 pm, 8.8m. 1ft = 0.3048m. 1m = 3.2808ft.

A cool NW airstream will give way as a ridge of high pressure crosses S Britain followed by a trough of low pressure into the SW later.

**Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:**  
 London, East Anglia, E Midlands, E England: Mostly dry, sunny periods, wind NW light or moderate backing SW, max temp 13° to 15° (55° to 61°F).

W Midlands, central S and SE England: Mostly dry, sunny periods, cloudy later, perhaps rain from W evening and night; wind NW light or moderate, backing S; maximum temp 14° to 16°C (57° to 61°F).

SW England, S Wales, Channel Islands: Bright and dry at first, cloud and rain from W; wind S light or moderate; maximum temp 14° to 16°C (57° to 61°F).

Lake District, Borders, NE, NW and central N England, N Wales, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man: Bright at first becoming rather cloudy at times with scattered showers and variable mostly light; maximum temp 11° to 14°C (52° to 57°F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, NE and SW Scotland, Orkney: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, heavy at times, windy over mountains; variable, mostly light; maximum temp 8° to 11°C (48° to 52°F).

Shetland: Rather cloudy, some rain, hill fog; drier later; wind variable, mostly light; maximum temp 10°C (50°F).

**Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday:** Changeable, some rain but also some sunshine; rather cool in N; temp near normal in S.

**Sea passages:** S North Sea: Wind N, backing W, fresh; sea moderate.

English Channel (E), Strait of Dover: Wind W or NW, fresh, backing SW and decreasing moderate; sea moderate.

St George's Channel: Wind variable, light, becoming SE, moderate or fresh; sea slight, becoming moderate later.

Irish Sea: Wind NW, fresh, backing moderate; sea moderate, becoming slight.

## WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: C, cloud; F, fair; R, rain; S, sun.

Aberdeen	14	Dublin	12	London	11	Oslo	11
Belfast	14	Edinburgh	12	Manchester	11	Paris	11
Birmingham	13	Glasgow	12	Newcastle	11	Roskilde	11
Bristol	13	Liverpool	12	Nottingham	11	Stockholm	11
Cardiff	13	London	11	Sheffield	11	Tampere	11
Exeter	13	Manchester	11	Stirling	11	Toronto	11
Gloucester	13	Newcastle	11	Wolverhampton	11	Uppsala	11
Leamington	13	Nottingham	11	York	11	Yokohama	11
Leeds	13	Sheffield	11				
Liverpool	12	Stirling	11				
Luton	13	Wolverhampton	11				
Nottingham	13	York	11				
Oldbury	13						
Oldham	13						
Oldbury	13						
Oldham	13						

# 'sybol'2



# Garden pests m.

There's no better way of controlling pests than with 'Sybol' 2. It's been specially developed to kill all common pests on contact. Even those insects on the underside of leaves not hit by the spray. And that's a real advantage when dealing with whitefly or red spider, for instance. As for the harvesting interval, it's only seven days. So you really don't have to wait too long before you enjoy your fruit, flowers and vegetables insect-free.



Care for your garden.

مركز الأصل



هكذا من الأصل



Have you noticed how luxury, like beauty, is often only skin deep?

If you're easily seduced by thick carpets and comfy seats, there are any number of 'luxury' cars to choose from.

If, however, you believe there's more to luxury than meets the eye (or for that matter, the posterior), the list of candidates rapidly shrinks.

Two cars that bear closer scrutiny are the Vauxhall Royale Saloon and Royale Coupé. Their distinctive looks owe as much to the science of the wind tunnel as to the art of the designer.

Both cut through the air with the minimum of turbulence and, as a result, with minimal wind noise.

A tapered, sloping bonnet and, below the bumper, an air dam reduce aerodynamic lift at speed and underline

the cars' remarkable stability and impressive roadholding.

Even the door mirrors are specially contoured to deflect spray and dirt away from the side windows.

Road noise, too, is suppressed not just by layers of insulation, but by the suspension itself.

Springs and shock absorbers, for example, have been

## Luxury is built in, not bolted on.

mounted closer to the wheels than is customary.

They react faster and more effectively to the smallest movement and successfully iron out those irritating small bumps that can be so intrusive.

While the bodywork itself has a natural resonance too high to be excited by road vibrations.

The engine, a silky 2.8 litre 140 bhp six-cylinder unit, is additionally steadied by two diagonally positioned hydraulic dampers for further smoothness.

And automatic transmission is, of course, standard on both cars (with manual available at no additional cost).

Inside, the Royale is one of the few cars that allows the driver to achieve not just a good driving position, but the ideal one.

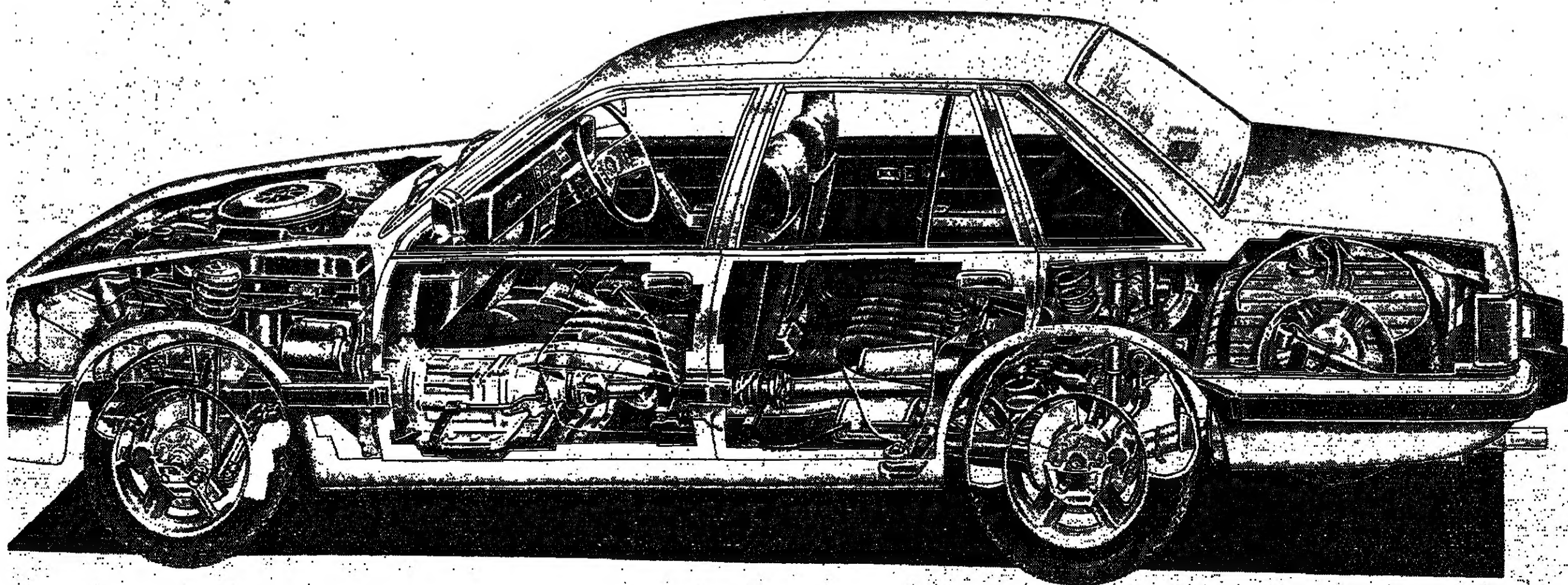
You can adjust the driver's seat for height, as well as for reach and rake and the steering wheel is tiltable.

As you'd also expect, the steering is powered.

Examine a Royale at your nearest Vauxhall dealer, and don't simply be seduced by the lavish specification.

You'll find it's one of the few cars where luxury is more than just a question of appearances.

AIR CONDITIONING IS THE ONLY OPTIONAL EXTRA AT £225. SALOON £10,100, COUPÉ £10,647. PRICES, CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT. DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES EXTRA.



VAUXHALL   
ROYALE



## HOME NEWS

## New terminal at Midlands airport to serve 2.7 million is approved

By Arthur Osman and Sara Bonner

Plans to build a new terminal at Birmingham airport, designed to meet 1990 traffic forecasts of 2,700,000 passengers, were approved yesterday by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment.

He has in the main approved the recommendations of Mr Eric Heijne, the inspector who held a public inquiry into West Midlands County Council's proposals last October.

The proposed development at the airport at Edndon includes access roads and ancillary facilities and a rapid transit passenger link between the terminal, Birmingham International railway station and the National Exhibition Centre.

The Department of the Environment said Mr Heseltine recognized that the main causes of opposition to the new proposals were the airport's location and noise, and agreed with the inspector's description of the location as an "accident of history".

But he had also considered the need for better facilities for both passengers and operators, not only to meet increased

demand but also to improve working conditions and safety. The inspector said of the terminal: "It is fast approaching total congestion and the figures produced at the inquiry confirm this".

Mr Heseltine agreed with that view, and also accepted the need to provide better road and rail access to the airport. He had considered the environmental disadvantages of the development, but accepted that if Birmingham airport was to play an adequate role in the West Midlands' future it must have modern facilities.

He also accepted the county council's assessment of the airport's needs for the next decade and their intention to reduce the impact of the development on all who lived and worked nearby, and imposed various conditions to reduce the effect of noise on residents.

Those include banning aircraft engines being run on the parallel taxiway and the hold point between 11 pm and 7 am except in emergencies, details of noise barriers to be approved before the parallel taxiway is built and construction noise to be cut to a minimum.

The airport authority has been asked to introduce its restrictions on night flying before the new terminal comes into use.

The new terminal building, designed to meet 1990 traffic forecasts of 2,700,000 compared with 1,350,000 in 1978, will be about 600 metres north-west of Birmingham International station.

New access roads will be linked with the Clock Lane interchange and with Birmingham International. There will be a link between the new terminal and the station and a bridge to support Bickenhill Lane. A new access road will link the old and new terminals.

Mr Terence Gidding, chief executive of the National Exhibition Centre at Bickenhill, said the approved development at Edndon airport meant facilities would be brought to the highest standard in four years' time. "It will also put us on a par with the rest of Europe as an exhibition centre".

But an organisation which represents 25 parish councils and residents groups near the airport described the decision as "a disaster for thousands of people".

## Forest fire damage is estimated at £1m

By Craig Seton

Wildlife and conservation organisations are still counting the cost of fires that swept through thousands of acres of forests and moorlands earlier this month, in some cases destroying for many years the natural habitat of birds and animals.

The Forestry Commission estimates that the 3,200 acres of forest it lost will cost £1m to replace. In addition 1,000 acres of private woodland were razed. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is still gathering reports from across the country, but is particularly concerned that the fires happened in the nesting season and probably destroyed the eggs or young of thousands of birds.

Martins and short-eared owls, which both nest on the ground in moorland areas, are thought to have been badly affected.

The Nature Conservancy said there had been losses of leopards, young rabbits and fawns in a fire that destroyed 400 acres of moorland at Holt Heath, Dorset. An unknown number of smooth snakes and sand lizards, both on the endangered species list, had also been killed.

The conservancy was concerned about the effect of the fires on the Dartford Warbler, which was still considered rare and was severely reduced in number by fires during the summer of 1976. The Forestry Commission said that a "tremendous number" of game birds, particularly grouse, had been lost with their young in moorland fires.

The Game Conservancy said that a 300-acre grouse moor in Northern Ireland had been destroyed and it expected further reports of damage in other parts of the United Kingdom early next month. The grouse shooting season is not, however, expected to be seriously affected.

The two weeks' ban on free access to public parts of the Peak District National Park because of fire risk ended at midnight.



The Prince of Wales, president of the Wildfowl Trust, inspecting an Hawaiian goose during a visit yesterday to the trust's reserve at Arundel, West Sussex. Earlier he chaired the trust's annual meeting.

## Killanin p. against political pressures

From John Hennessy Dublin

Lord Killanin, president of the International Olympic Committee, argued yesterday that sport should not be for political purposes there were other, more prize methods.

He said that the easiest way to bring peace to bear was to call on men to make the sacrifice and assure you that if and I am speaking per that governments were to trade or imposing sanctions and using and diplomatic methods could possibly have force majeure case which have made us look as again.

"I wish to reiterate protest, on behalf of the Olympic Committee, that sport should not be for political purposes. It is the key, to my mind, to what has arisen."

He was prepared to accept that some good might come of the boycott. It had added thrust to the take politics out of the and inhibiting their chauvinistic purposes. He felt, it would be in the accepted that national not be flaunted as in the

A change of rule made able for the first time countries taking part in to use not their own anthem and flag, but a from the Olympic hymn the Olympic flag.

Olympic events were individuals not countries in team sports, and Lord Killanin declared, not for time, the publication of tables. They were in and had no part in Olympic cords.

The boycott had been effective than he had not one time to be prepared for only 50 countries. Now 85 had and it was still possible further additions, in the last entry date passed.

But the boycott had unfortunate divisions, from 'political' differences some countries' government and national Olympic teams (NOCs) were in disagreement; in other schism existed between individual athletes.

There was no common any country or individual compete in any games, there were some athletes wanted to compete but not so because the had declined.

"It is no secret that I had requested from others, Americans, and athletes who wish to Moscow in defiance of NOCs". Lord Killanin had sympathy for them, was a delicate matter re deep study, because he wish to see the authority NOC undermined.

Lord Killanin did not comparison with the games of 1936 was was experience was anything by, Hitler did not act propaganda triumph, opened his own eyes full, iniquities of the Nazi and convinced him with duty lay when the war

He said he had taken Mr Brezhnev in Moscow in the Russian in 1979 claiming that the of the games to Moscow acknowledgement of the priority of Russia's foreign

The Russian president asked what was wrong and Lord Killanin had everything, emphasizing a decision had been purely sporting grounds. Brezhnev, apparently, nothing further to say.

Lord Killanin thought was a case for relaxed general rule whereby reporters from competitors could be given action. "But I issue a that the Olympic Games sporting journalists, fashion writers or political reporters", he said.

"The whole basis of Lions tour is to give to belief that South is moving away from theid". Mr Stephenson "But the killing of the proves they have no of ending apartheid."

Mr Carlisle retorted the reason the Lions are in

## Robertson's golly hits sticky patch

By Lucy Hodges

Gollywogs may be an innocent pleasure to many children, and to adults who eat Robertson's jam, but the use of the symbol is increasingly causing outrage among black people.

A group of them have written to Robertson's, whose jam goes by appointment to Her Majesty the Queen, to protest at the massive advertising campaign launched this year under the slogan, "Fifty golden years of Robertson's golly".

The little paper gollies that come with every jar of Robertson's strawberry, blackcurrant, raspberry and apricot jam can be exchanged for such goodies as a "ladies' scenic suntop" or camping equipment for scouts.

Gollies, as they are known by Robertson's (the "wog" has been dropped), will be appearing on a whole range of pro-

ducts to be marketed with Robertson's jam, marmalade and lemon curd. There will be gollies on table mats, badges, pens, bags, handkerchiefs, aprons, oven mitts, tea cups, spoons, and even thermometers.

Mr Basil Manning, a community worker at the North Lewisham Project and a member of the National Committee on Racism in Children's Books, which is protesting, said he thought the Robertson's campaign was despicable.

"It is perpetuating an image, a caricature of black people which is counterproductive and distasteful considering the multicultural nature of our society."

Mr Manning successfully protested to Boots the Chemists about its sale of sponge gollywogs last Christmas. He wrote a letter in the

form of a parable to the managing director of Boots which described a society in which children were given gollywogs for Christmas and 20 years later were marching through the streets of London yelling "wogs out".

Boots replied saying it would not be ordering any further supplies of such sponges. In the letter to Robertson's, Dorothy Kuya, the author, asks the company to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary by organizing a competition for a new symbol to reflect a multiracial Britain or by devising a new one.

If Robertson's refuses to modify its campaign, the committee will consider calling for a boycott of all Robertson's food and issuing counter-gollywog badges.

## HOW MR. RAWLINGS AVOIDED A BOTTLENECK.

Mr. Rawlings determined that his refreshing, sparkling waters should reach his customers promptly.

What a shame it would be if they were kept waiting.

To avoid such disappointment, R. White & Company, purveyors of Rawlings sparkling waters built a new plant and offices at the London Industrial Park in Docklands.

The move has provided Mr. Rawlings with plenty of space to stretch his legs. Excellent link roads. And the centre of London is close to hand.

Of course, not only have we British acquired a taste for Mr. Rawlings waters and White's lemonade. Discerning palates in far off lands are just as choosy. From London you can truck, rail, ship or fly your product to anywhere in the world. Much to the satisfaction of these people. While both the UK and EEC markets are on your very doorstep. Over 250m people.

R. White isn't the only company who thinks it makes sound financial sense to operate from Docklands. You'll find blue chip names like Unilever, Ford, Tate & Lyle and Crosse & Blackwell here too.

Over the next three years more than £200m will be spent on improving transport systems and building new housing and factories.

If there's a bottleneck in your operation, well, Mr. Rawlings has found the answer.

Write to The Docklands Development Organisation, Blackfriars House, 19 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6DB for full details.



WE'LL HELP YOU MAKE MORE OF YOUR CAPITAL

## Playboy chief's art boost for charity

By Frances Gibb

Within an hour of the Royal Academy summer exhibition opening for the private view yesterday, Mr Victor Lowmes, chairman and managing director of the Playboy Club in London, bought nearly 500 of the 1,370 pictures on show.

Mr Lowmes spent an estimated £100,000 to help KIDS, a national society for handicapped children, which had appealed to him for help in raising the £50,000 it needs to set up a second centre for handicapped children.

The society hopes to resell the pictures later at a higher price. Mr Lowmes will recoup his capital outlay and KIDS will reap the profit.

"I have always thought the pictures at the academy summer exhibition were underpriced", Mr Lowmes said yesterday. "So when the society asked for help, I thought, 'Why

not go along and buy up a whole lot, which they can resell'."

Mr Lowmes, who has bought pictures for himself at previous summer exhibitions, said that the Playboy Club had become a corporate sponsor of the academy, which is in some financial difficulties. That means that for £500 a year his company receives various concessions such as tickets to previews.

Mr John Mulcahy, director of KIDS, said yesterday that the money would enable the purchase and renovation of a building in Kensington to be completed. The society runs a centre in Camden, north London. "We are thrilled and delighted by what Mr Lowmes has done", he said.

The exhibition, the 212th, opens to the public tomorrow and the works on display, selected from more than 12,000, cover a wider range than previously.

## Minister orders inspection of Reliants after TV report

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport, has ordered an inspection of 500 Reliant Robin cars by his vehicle examiners after complaints that work carried out to rectify a steering fault had resulted in the chafing of brake or fuel pipes.

The minister announced his decision last night on the BBC television programme *That's Life*. The programme, which is introduced by Miss Esther Rantzen, has alleged that in 35 cases work ordered by Reliant under a recall campaign has not been done properly.

Mr Fowler said he would

publish the results of the inspection in the next few days. He also invited car owners to write to him about any safety defect on which they had failed to get satisfaction from either a manufacturer or dealer.

Reliant has had three recall campaigns on the Robin's steering mechanism since 1974. The latest, mounted last year, was for the fitting of a bolt-on clamp and stay for the steering bracket.

Reliant said last night that it had taken every possible step to ensure that the work was done properly, and in the light of the complaints had issued fresh instructions to all dealers. However, it knew of no cases where pipes had been chafed.

## National Trust restores historic garden

By John Young

The National Trust yesterday celebrated the near completion of one of its most noteworthy achievements—the rescue and restoration of the great garden of Claremont, near Esher, Surrey.

The 50-acre garden, once described as the noblest in Europe, was first laid out by Vanbrugh and Bridgeman between 1715 and 1726.

It was successively owned by the Duke of Newcastle, who was twice Prime Minister, by Clive of India, and by the Royal Family.

Later it fell into neglect. The estate was sold in 1922, the house became a girls' school. The Trust acquired it in 1949, but it was not until 1975 that finance became available.

## MP says call to stop Lions S Africa tour is disgrace

By a Staff Reporter

A call for the British Lions' rugby tour of South Africa to be cancelled because of the shooting by the police of two demonstrators near Cape Town has aroused the wrath of Mr John Carlisle, Conservative MP for Luton, West.

He said yesterday that the demand by Mr Paul Stephenson, a member of the Sports Council and of the Commission for Racial Equality, to cut short the tour was disgraceful and quite unwarranted. The British Lions should have complete support while they are there.

Mr Carlisle is to raise the issue of sport in South Africa in a Commons debate on Wednesday.

Mr Stephenson sent a telegram on Wednesday to the

Prime Minister urging that demand that the Rugby ball Union cancels unless the present Lions tour is Africa in respect of the of coloured school children testing against apartheid.

He sent the same message to Mr Michael Stead, chairman of the Four Tour Committees, who Cape Town before the first match against the boks.

"The whole basis of Lions tour is to give to belief that South is moving away from theid". Mr Stephenson "But the killing of the proves they have no of ending apartheid."

Mr Carlisle retorted the reason the Lions are in

## Pitmen order some local wine

By a Staff Reporter

Two new part-time members of the Commission for Racial Equality were appointed yesterday by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary.

The appointments, which will take effect from next Monday and run for two years, are of Mr Brian Astley, an Edinburgh

## New race board member

By a Staff Reporter

Two new part-time members of the Commission for Racial Equality were appointed yesterday by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary.

The appointments, which will take effect from next Monday and run for two years, are of Mr Brian Astley, an Edinburgh

lecturer and convenor of the Scottish Council for Equality, and Mrs G. Paul, a West Indian, teacher in a Leeds school member of the city's community council.

Mr Dilbag Singh, Va agreed to serve as a member of the commission another two years.



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## HOME NEWS

# Scientology plea to Europe over ban

By David Nicholson-Lord

The ban on foreign members of the Church of Scientology from entering Britain is being challenged at the European Commission of Human Rights.

The church's petition to the commission alleges breaches of six articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, including violation of provisions on freedom of religion and expression. It also accuses the Government of inhuman and degrading treatment of foreign scientists refused entry.

The church said yesterday that the petition had been made possible by last year's decision by the commission in a case involving Swedish scientists. It said that overturned the previous ruling that only individuals could bring petitions, which led to the rejection of the church's challenge to the introduction of the ban.

The ban, which covers overseas scientists wishing to study or work at science centres and those visiting to promote the church's interests, was imposed in 1968 on the grounds that it was "socially harmful, pseudo-philosophical cult".

The alleged breaches include article 14, governing the right to effective remedy before a national authority, relating particularly to the church's objection that the evidence on which the ban was based has never been made public.

Mr Peter Thompson, for the church, said it had delayed its petition since the ruling on the Swedish case in the hope that the Government might end the restrictions.

"We have now been through every channel possible and we are getting a little impatient. It seems that the scientists are the only religious group in Britain who are discriminated against in this way."

More than 90 MPs have signed a Commons motion asking for the evidence on which the ban is based to be made public. A fortnight ago the church won an appeal against refusal of entry to a foreign scientist. It is believed to be its first successful appeal.

# Welfare groups split on use of battery cages

By Hugh Clayton

Agricultural Correspondent

A new split appeared in the fragmented animal welfare movement yesterday when the National Society Against Factory Farming gave qualified support to the battery cage system of keeping chickens.

The system is seen by many campaigners as one of the cruellest used on farms. Mr Anthony Savage, scientific adviser to the society, said at its annual meeting in London: "This society does not support the abolition of the battery cage, but we do support a campaign to reduce the stocking rate. A lot of the abolitionists seem to be completely out of touch."

He said that the most desirable system was free-range, but that was not feasible for large, modern chicken flocks. The best system for them was the single-bird battery cage, in which birds could be given light and



Bernard Bresslaw, who plays Dogberry, inspecting the gentlemen of the watch yesterday at a rehearsal of "Much Ado About Nothing", opening in Regent's Park, London, on Monday.

# Hereditary peers' role defended

By Ian Bradley

The Prime Minister was right not to rule out new hereditary peers, Mr John Bignold, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, said last night.

Speaking at a dinner in London organized by the Royal Society to mark the 320th anniversary of the restoration of King Charles II, he said that hereditary peers were "becoming a monarchy".

"An hereditary element in Parliament acts as a corrective to the absurd notion that the ballot box is infallible," he said. "The Lords can voice the opinion of the masses when it goes unheard in the Commons. Many believe that it is not so much the House of Lords that needs reform as the House of Commons."

Mr Bignold said the House of Lords would not attack neighbours. Mr Savage rejected the view that straw yards in sheds where birds could move freely were a useful step from the battery system towards a free range ideal. "There is nothing in between that is acceptable to us from an animal welfare point of view."

The society has chosen a policy exactly opposite to that of Compassion in World Farming, which includes some members of the society among its subscribers. The group is leading a campaign which it wants to spread to larger groups like the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The aim of the campaign is to secure a ban on battery cages and to replace them with what the group calls "the humane system" of straw yards. Mr Mark Gold, the group's national organizer, said yesterday that the policies of the two groups were "incompatible".

# Treatment to make nuclear waste safer being studied

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

A new approach to the safe disposal of waste that remains radioactive for a long time is being studied by the National Radiological Protection Board.

Reports published yesterday by two of the board's research groups suggest that it is theoretically possible to create some of the "most hazardous elements from the liquid waste in question before it is contained in vitreous blocks for burial either in deep geological cavities or beneath the sea bed."

The treated waste would be less radioactive and less difficult to handle, and the elements removed by new methods of chemical separation would be recycled with nuclear fuel to be "burnt" in nuclear reactors. The substances that would be removed from the waste belong to the family of compounds

known as the actinides, which emit alpha radiation.

The chemical similarity of those elements makes separation difficult, but work in a number of laboratories in the United States and Europe, using methods of intensive separation to simulate the sort of chemical conditions of highly active liquid wastes, has shown that the separation of actinides is possible.

The economic and technical feasibility of separation as a commercial operation in the reprocessing of nuclear fuel is among subjects for review next week by the International Atomic Energy Agency. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the separation of actinides from the waste of the extraction of plutonium and americium could considerably reduce the hazards of disposal at sea. The advantages of the process are fewer for disposal in underground caverns.

# Oil firms said to be stopping cuts by private garages

# Petrol men claim price 'pressure'

By John Witherow

Oil companies have been putting pressure on independent petrol stations to discourage them from cutting prices, according to some private garage owners. They say they have been told by representatives of some big oil companies to raise petrol prices to the same level as company-owned garages near by.

If they refuse they face a price war with a garage that has the backing of a multi-national company. The inevitable result is that the independent garages are forced to raise their prices or start losing money.

The oil companies maintain, however, that although they give subsidies or "support" to their garages in competitive areas, they have been instrumental in keeping prices low.

That is denied by Mr Brian Tew, who owns two garages in Cheltenham. He said he reduced prices at his station, near a Shell-owned garage, and was approached last week by a Shell area manager in "an aggressive and threatening manner".

Mr Tew said the man told him: "Either you raise your

prices or we will match you penny for penny and you will learn that it does not pay to cut prices."

Mr Tew refused, and the subsidized Shell garage brought its prices down to the same level. He found that he could not compete, and was forced to raise prices a few days after cutting them.

Shell confirmed the details, although they said their representative had not been threatening, and maintained that a price war was not in anyone's interests.

Mr Tew said he was aware of similar practices by the big oil companies in Manchester and Bristol, and other garage owners said it was fairly widespread. Mr Pat Stone, who owns a garage in Sidcup, London, said: "This type of thing is going on in several places around the country."

Independent garage owners see the pressure as merely one factor in wider changes in petrol retailing. This is the edge of the wedge, the big oil companies are trying to take over independent garages so that they can impose higher prices, Mr Stone alleged.

He said Shell, who are one of the two biggest petrol re-

tailers in the country, were gradually squeezing out independents from the petrol game.

Shell denied that, and said they had no intention of undercutting small private garages, or forcing them out of business.

Nonetheless, the Motor Agents' Association (MAA), which represents the independent owners, has expressed considerable concern about the oil companies' growing share of the market.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission reported last year that the big oil companies, through their outlets, accounted for more than half of petrol sales in Britain, but said they did not see any particular danger in the situation.

The Office of Fair Trading said that it was investigating complaints from private garage owners, and some MPs, that the oil companies were trying to squeeze small filling stations out of business. But in spite of the many allegations of malpractice, it is believed that the Department will be hard pressed to find substantial evidence to enable it to take action.

# Fishermen to stage protest over imports

By Ronald Kershaw

Northern Industrial Correspondent

Britain's fishermen will mount a national protest today at lack of action by the Government to restrict imports of cheap fish.

In ports throughout the country rallies will be held and fish either given away or sold for 15p a lb, the amount the fishermen get for their catch. A group of 100 men from various ports will sail up the Thames and a delegation will march to Downing Street to present the Prime Minister with fish, expressing the view that for all they get for it they might as well give it away.

Mr Nigel Atkins, chief executive of the Grimsby-based National Federation of Fishermen's Organizations, said that the object of the demonstrations was to draw attention to cheap imports from European partners and third countries whose fishing industries were heavily subsidized.

The British industry wanted realistic marketing arrangements introduced within the EEC, where prices did not reflect the reality of the economics of production. Fishermen wanted a reassessment of official "guide prices", which they thought should be doubled to take account of inflation.

Measures taken by the EEC last week, increasing tariffs on frozen fish from third countries, would have only a marginal effect, he added. Trade restrictions were wanted, but failing that some form of subsidy to the industry would enable Britain to compete with overseas vessels.

Each port has decided what action it will take today. At Lowestoft there will be a token blockade of the port. At Bridlington fish will be sold at 15p a lb, mainly haddock, plaice and whiting.

At Scarborough will be given away. A flotilla of about 40 vessels, from cobles to big stern trawlers, will steam up the Tyne. At Grimsby there will be a march to the town hall square for a symbolic disposal of free fish. Smaller ports such as Fleetwood, Seahouses, Amble and Berwick will all stage demonstrations.

Mr Atkins said: "This is a day of protest, but gentlemenly protest. We want to show the Government the strength of our feeling and make the public aware of the desperation of the industry."

## WEST EUROPE

# French bishops ask fewer speeches and more time to see Po

From Peter Nichols

Rome, May 29  
The Pope sets off tomorrow for France under the highly appropriate patronage of Joan of Arc if one follows the calendar of the saints.

In the preparation of the visit, the French bishops asked for a reasonable amount of time in which they could talk to the Pope rather than leaving him to make speeches. He is just back from America where in 10 days he spoke formally on more than 70 occasions. During his earlier American tour a number of bishops expressed disappointment that they had no chance to meet him informally.

It is known that the Pope has listened to advice about the future shape of visits since he came back from America. One suggestion was that he should simply make one big speech in each country he visited and spend the rest of the time in informal meetings which would give him the chance to listen to others.

Apparently he rejected this proposal. There is some hope, however, that he will accept another suggestion which would also clear the way, if to a lesser extent, for a greater exchange of views.

This is that he should give up the practice of addressing all the different categories of people in each country, and instead visit the civil authorities, the bishops, the priests, the nuns, the monks, the students and so on—and speak only once about the problems of each group.

These issues were pressing for the last journey such as the Brazilian tour in July and the projected Asian trip in November for his Paris stay. The French have undoubtedly made a valuable contribution simply by saying that the bishops would like a reasonable time to themselves with the Pope. However, there are fears at the Vatican that the time available to the bishops may inevitably be cut down because mass audiences and state functions will still claim more time than the programme foresees.

Cardinal Marty, the Archbishop of Paris, in an interview today in the Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero*, talks about the expectations aroused by the Pope's coming visit. "Contentment, he says, is mission territory. We must bear witness to the gospel in the places where men live."

# Massive police guard in Paris for papal visit

From Ian Murray

Paris, May 29

The first visit to France by a pope since 1814 starts tomorrow and already it seems certain it will prove to be the biggest occasion Paris has ever staged. Every hotel room in the city is said to be booked, with the luxury hotels being filled up first.

The expected size of the welcome for the Pope has meant that elaborate security and protocol measures have had to be worked out. Nearly 15,000 police will be on duty over the weekend to control the crowds. It will be the biggest police guard ever mounted for any head of state in the capital.

At Le Bourget, where anything up to two million people are expected to attend an open air Mass co-celebrated by the Pope, 140 bishops, and 1,500 priests, a tent village has been built to accommodate the 20,000 Scouts from all over France who have volunteered to act as volunteers.

How to control the crowds at Le Bourget has posed the biggest problems for the authorities. Twenty miles of iron railings have been brought in from cities all over France to channel the spectators.

People wishing to go to Le Bourget are being advised to drive out the previous evening and sleep in their cars or sleeping bags, bringing their food with them. Parents have been warned not to take any children under seven years old and to attach a label with a name and address, firmly to older children.

The Pope is to drive around Paris during his stay in a specially prepared white Peugeot car with a raised platform at the back from which he can bless the people as he passes. He has specifically requested that the car should not be bullet-proof, although his personal bodyguard, the Ameri-

can Bishop Paul Marc

be at close hand.

On Monday the scheduled to leave Lissieux, after making a detour to the town of 300,000 people expected to turn up a glimpse of the Pope, makes the pilgrimage basilica built in memory of the Pope.

The Pope's arrival in Paris is a major event. The Elysée Palace, soon realized that it would be a bigger crowd in Paris than at the airport. Mr Raymond F. Prime Minister is the lead the welcoming party at Orly and it will meet the Pope when it lands in the Elysées.

Mr Chirac will have a short stop outside the Hotel de Ville, which protocol forbids the Pope to enter.

The other expected crowd is the one which will meet the Pope at the airport. The Pope and his entourage will be met by the Mayor of Paris, the Elysée Palace, soon realized that it would be a bigger crowd in Paris than at the airport. Mr Raymond F. Prime Minister is the lead the welcoming party at Orly and it will meet the Pope when it lands in the Elysées.

The Pope, however, visit to France is aimed at halting the decline of the church in France, which has been a political matter. Only one of the French prelates today are practising, and the Pope's visit to stop the continuing decline of the church, and to a moral of the clergy.

# West Berlin's communist party is in disarray

From Gräfin Spitzer

Berlin, May 29

The Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, small offshoot of the East German SED, has lost two of its executive board members and another 28 of the rank and file. They resigned after internal controversies, dissatisfaction with the state and activities of this communist party with approximately 4,000 members.

To the public the West Berlin party is, in fact, leading a life in oblivion. Its supporters dropped from 1.9 per cent in the last election to 1.1 per cent in the last election.

The withdrawal of the board members reported today by *Die Wahrheit* (The Truth), the West Berlin party's organ. Explanations of why the others resigned were published by another newspaper.

These statements listed cases of resentment over the party's policy during the past seven years. They included criticism

of its "undemocratic" for the expatriation Biermann, the singer, East German author disapproved with the passage of the arrest of German communist leader, at St. Denis, a day.

The Pope, however, visit to France is aimed at halting the decline of the church in France, which has been a political matter. Only one of the French prelates today are practising, and the Pope's visit to stop the continuing decline of the church, and to a moral of the clergy.

Furthermore, there is a sentiment over the disintegration of the railway workers by a German Railway. C. they worked in West Berlin where the railway was by the East Germans. O. ment said the workers were trampled down.

Internal controversy closed when the first *Klarheit* (Clarity) began to appear in West Berlin. December 5, 1979, the newspaper revealed the existence of opposition within the Berlin party.

The paper demanded democracy within the party and a large scale political discussion on its future policy.

# Minister calls for distinctive polytechnic role

By Our Education Correspondent

Polytechnics must offer a genuine alternative to universities or they will be seen as second-class academic institutions, Mr Rhodes, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in London yesterday.

Addressing the annual council meeting of the Association of Polytechnic Teachers, Mr Rhodes said the distinction between the two types of institutions should be the watershed of the polytechnics, distinctiveness in courses, in teaching methods and in general approach.

"One of the biggest obstacles facing the polytechnics in the 1980s is the lack of confidence among the public and even in some areas of education, that the polytechnics are second-class institutions trying to copy the universities with their venerable academic traditions," he said.

"It is essential that polytechnics should be self-consciously distinguished from those of universities, not by a difference in academic achievement but rather by one of attitude and approach, with the polytechnic graduates being more practical and aptitude for solving problems and designing practical ways of tackling and solving them."

He did not support the polytechnics' call for independence from local authorities. He said he would "find it hard to envisage two nationally-funded sectors which would not tend increasingly to come to resemble each other."

Local authority involvement was a dimension which widened the range of links between the polytechnic and the outside world. At present, polytechnics would continue to function within the traditional sector of higher education, he said.

# Men raided grave in attempt to find gold

Two men dug into a grave in a "macabre and ghastly" attempt to steal gold from the dead. They had caught gold fever because of soaring prices, it was stated at York Magistrates' Court, South Yorkshire, yesterday.

After digging only four feet into a grave created about 100 years ago, John Seaton, aged 28, and Anthony Stables, aged 25, lost their nerve and fled from the churchyard, the prosecution alleged.

Mr Seaton, a fitter, of Chapel Lane, Sykehouse, and Mr Stables, a driver, of Braithwaite Lane, Kettlethorpe, South Yorkshire, admitted attempting to steal gold from a grave. They were both given a suspended six-month sentence and fined £150.

# Many beaten by 'strain of a long marriage'

By Derek Barnett

Fifty years looking at the same face across the breakfast table was more than many married people could stand, Lord Wells-Pestell said yesterday.

Lord Wells-Pestell, Labour peer and sociologist, a founder of the National Marriage Guidance Council and former junior health minister, said at a church conference on "The Family in the Eighties" at Westminster Abbey: "We have to face the fact that many couples are not able to stand the strain of a prolonged marriage."

But he added: "In many instances it is doubtful whether unhappiness, or boredom, or even divorce, is not solved by destroying the marriage."

He called for a family commission, backed by the state, to be set up as a watchdog and said it was time marriage guidance councils helped not only couples with marriage difficulties but also those considering divorce.

Longer life expectancy meant that married couples could expect to be together for 50 years, compared with an average of only 20 years in 1900.

"There were also other reasons why life was going to get much more difficult for married people in the next few years. The stresses and strains of prolonged unemployment could destroy a family. Shorter working weeks could do the same."

He predicted that as second and third marriages became more common, so would the phenomenon of "extended families" where two or perhaps three families were all connected by previous marriages that ended in divorce.

# Women executives prone to heart disease, survey says

By a Staff Reporter

Women in management suffer greater stress than their male counterparts and are more likely to develop heart disease, then housewives, according to a survey published today.

A prime cause of their stress is discrimination, it says. The survey of the women in the sample asserted that in the past 10 years men in their companies had been promoted more rapidly than equally qualified women, and 56 per cent said that was still the case in the past two or three years.

The survey, devoted to work and a preoccupation with deadlines. That type in both sexes was more likely to develop heart disease than others, the survey found. Although most of those in the sample thought they earned better wages than their subordinates, studies reveal that they run a higher risk of stress-related illnesses.

# Royal Opera House may ask for larger grant

By Martin Huckerby

Music Reporter

The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, appears to be dissatisfied with the grant it has been offered by the Arts Council and apparently intends to keep fighting for a larger share of the council's funds.

Covent Garden will not disclose what it has been offered, but said: "We are still assessing the effects of what we have been offered." The Arts Council simply said: "We have not agreed a final figure. We are still in negotiation."

However, independent calculations suggest that Covent Garden was made an initial offer of £7,525,000, which probably represents an increase of about 7.5 per cent on last year's grant.

Such an increase is much less than the rise in costs caused by inflation and slightly less than has been given to the English National Opera, which received a 9.2 per cent increase. It has raised its ticket prices sharply, has dropped a new production and is planning further economies.

# Tax advantage for families 'wrong'

By a Staff Reporter

Britain's sex discrimination law is wrong and causes inefficiency in society, Dr Ivy Papps, an economics lecturer at Durham University, says. She also considers that tax advantages for married couples are wrong.

She makes those comments in *For Love or Money?* an Institute of Economic Affairs booklet, an analysis of marriage and the family. During a press conference in London to launch the booklet she dismissed questions about whether she was married or single as irrelevant to her conclusions.

Dr Papps says in the booklet that much of the legislation affecting the family is based on "vague hunches" rather than any theoretical basis. Sex discrimination laws prevented employers taking into account all relevant factors which might be "damaging" to the productivity of "female" employees. The Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, required equal pay for equal work and equal employment

opportunities regardless of differences between the sexes.

She says: "Women with children tend to be relatively unreliable in timekeeping because of children's illness and family crises." Those laws which encourage women to specialize less, and men to specialize more, in work and activities at home. That was "inefficient for society as a whole because time is being used inefficiently in an activity which is less productive."

Employers would be forced to pay women more than the expected value of their work and, because they could not differentiate between men and women, they would pay men less than they were worth.

Dr Papps says tax concessions to married people provide "an artificial incentive to marry". Gains from marriage were raised by the tax system. That principle was "clearly inefficient". She also criticizes subsidies

to children. Child benefits, "free" education and health, priority in housing were likely to encourage people to have more children than they would if parents had to bear the full costs of their children."

Dr Papps admits that the abolition of all subsidies to children could not lightly be recommended. She could not see any easy way out of the difficulty. Most people would find it unacceptable for children to suffer because of their parents' choices.

On divorce, Dr Papps says that increasing the gains from marriage and decreasing the costs of divorce, as policy in Britain had tended to do, created an incentive to increase both the rate of marriage and that of divorce. "The net effect," she comments, "is that single people, particularly those without children, are forced to subsidize the mistakes of those who marry."

*For Love or Money?* (Institute of Economic Affairs) £1.50.

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ST EUROPE



ending the division: West German n watch East German construction break up parts of the old Berlin Bernauer Strasse yesterday. And man soldiers watch the policemen. ie spot where hundreds of Germans o the West after the wall was built When the workmen have tidied away the debris, a fence will be erected which, with the new Berlin wall in the background, will strengthen the division of the city. At another point the wall of a cemetery is being removed by the East Germans on the border between the French and Soviet sectors. It will be replaced by a high fence of wire mesh.

## quiry to question nor Cossiga

May 29.—A parliament commission tonight ignored Francesco Cossiga's Prime Minister, to allegations that he well-connected urban suspect to escape ect's father, Signor at-Cartin, aged 60, reary of the Christ-atic party, appeared commission for two y in camera. ossiga will give evi-ibly tomorrow, to sion, which examines u accusations against: sions against Signor e made in jail this Signor Roberto alleged member of a (Front Line), one ost notorious guer-landalo told magi- Signor Cossiga had ignou Donat-Catin year that police had discovered the hideout of his son, Marco, an dwere poised to arrest him.

## Muskie to get Giscard of Warsaw talks

les Hargrove 29 François-Poncet, the reign Minister, will a powers of persua-ince Mr Edmund American opposite ten he meets him in tomorrow, that Giscard d'Estaing's Warsaw was really and that it served of world peace and that of the Pres- international and estige. was its object, the th President Brezh- Soviet Union was failure. President's own party, with the ex-M Michel Poniatow- al and most influen- lies, and the deus a of the Warsaw eamed embarrased as disapproval of a initiative in the Paris Press and political circles been so unanimous and presi- dential explanations encour- tered so little conviction. The elaborate distinction the President drew in his televi- sion interview last Friday be- tween the "conversation" upon which he insisted with Mr Brezhnev, and the "confer- ence" into which he did not let himself be drawn, seemed unreal and artificial. It was the more so as the Russians, in ex- ploiting the meeting in their propaganda, have made no attempt to observe such diplo- matic niceties. The President's discreet refer- ence, in the context of any future threat of Soviet expan- sionism, to the fact that "after the talks, Mr Brezhnev and I certainly know far more pre- cisely what would be the re- actions to the possible develop- ments of the international situ- ation", had a distinct "peace in our time" flavour.

## oil 'lake' ted C official

layton Correspondent could eventually second largest EEC er milk, Mr Alan an official of the Commission, said in terday. He told a organized by the ufacturers' Federa- ere could be a large osterly olive oil after joined the Com- he mid-1980s. colous, while smaller milk, could be less politically because widely consumed oil supplied only a t. on, an adviser to opher Tugendhat, or for the Budget, e next stage of EEC would bring in produce to support extra funds with pport it. fact of this further finances is, of siderably increased ined budget diffi- sion of countries ible to put less city funds than they lously does not pass however, as an im- lf of its food, might far more to the it received.

## terrorists

ay 29.—Mr William he British Home discussed with senior ernment ministers

OVERSEAS

## South African police condemned for shooting of children

From Our Correspondent Cape Town, May 29

The South African police are being strongly criticized for shooting two schoolchildren during a disturbance in the Coloured suburb of Elsie's River, near Cape Town, yesterday. Fears are being expressed that the deaths could lead to unrest on the scale of 1976. Bishop Desmond Tutu, secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, who was himself arrested in a protest march this week, asked whether the police had not learnt any riot control measures which were effective without causing fatalities. The Rev Abel Hendricks, chairman of the Cape district of the Methodist Church, called for the present state of deten- tions without trial to be halted forthwith. Mr T. van der Merwe, an opposition member of Parlia- ment, has disclosed that shortly before the shooting he appealed to Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Police, to control police excess in the Elsie's River area. Mr van der Merwe had been shocked by what he had seen on a visit to the area and went to see Mr Le Grange with two other MPs. The Argus newspaper published this afternoon a re- porter's account of police beat- ing up people on pavements. This, the report said, provoked stonethrowing in retaliation and ultimately led to the police opening fire. Mr Le Grange has declined

to order a special inquiry and said that the inquest procedure must take its ordinary course. Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, commenting on the shooting, has said that the security forces must act where necessary. Dr van Zyl Slabbert, the Leader of the Opposition, said that the failure of the Gov- ernment to meet the legitimate demands of the Coloured people was creating a pattern for the escalation of unrest. Late today, there were re- ports of stone-throwing and blazing barricades of car tyres being set up in the streets of Ravensmead, adjacent to Elsie's River. Clergy protest: Christian ministers and laymen, led by Bishop Desmond Tutu, again staged a hymn-singing demon- stration outside the Johannes- burg law courts this morning when eight of their colleagues, including four clergymen, appeared before a magistrate. The crowd of about 150 included some of the 53 ministers and laymen who were arrested on Monday. Lions reaction: Suggestions in London that the British Lions rugby team should curtail their tour because of the political unrest in South Africa have drawn little reaction here. The Lions are due to play the first of four tests against South Africa on Sunday in Cape Town (Eric Marsden writes from Johannesburg).

## Swapo-chief calls off his visit to London

By Michael Knipe

Mr Sam Nujoma, the head of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) yesterday cancelled a scheduled visit to London and returned to Africa to attend a summit meeting of the "front line" African states seeking independence for South-West Africa (Namibia). Mr Nujoma was due to speak at an anti-apartheid conference in London on Saturday and to meet Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, on Monday. However, he cancelled his plans from Paris and is flying to Lusaka to attend the week- end summit meeting which is expected to discuss the recent sharp increase in violence along the South-West Africa border with Angola, and the apparent deadlock in settle- ment negotiations. Angola has accused South Africa of carrying out a series of raids across the border using fighter bombers, helicopter gunships, heavy artillery and ground forces transported by armoured cars. Reports from Luanda have put the number of dead and wounded at more than 260 in the past month. South Africa has accused black nationalist guerrillas of ambushing its forces on the border. Landmine kills 14: A landmine left over from the Rhodesian war was detonated by a passing lorry carrying black workers near Siavonga in southern Zam- bia, killing all 14 occupants, the Daily Times of Zambia re- ported.—AP.

## Factional feuds beset Afghan leadership

Continued from page 1

young cadre to provide Marxist leadership in the years to come," the analysis claims. Even Mr Babrak Karmal is under the direct supervision of Moscow. Except for a dozen or so sentries at the main gate of the Old Palace where he lives, his security is entirely in the hands of the Russians. His bodyguard, chef, driver, doctor and six chief advisers are all Soviet citizens. Soviet control also extends to the economic sector. More than 40 economic agreements were signed between Kabul and Mos- cow shortly after the revolution guaranteeing "Soviet domi- nation of the Afghan economy for years to come", the analy- sis says. Moreover, food supplies are being provided almost totally now by the Soviet Union. According to one senior State Department official, several large wheat deliveries have taken place, including one of 140,000 tons at the end of last month. Local food production has been disrupted by the war and only a few spring crops have been planted to cater for strictly localized needs. Come next winter, this official be- lieves, all foodstuffs for a population of about 18 million will probably have to come from Russia. Soviet attempts to guide the running of the coun- try have been greatly complica- ted by the continuing struggle between the two main factions of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) which is theoretically in charge. The rivalry between the so- called Khalqi and Parcham

groups has its roots in early personal and ideological dif- ferences dating back to the late 1960s. Although both wings of the PDPA are dedicated to Marxist- Leninist principles, the Parcham- is, now led by Mr Babrak Karmal, have tended to be more pragmatic in their approach to political, social and economic change than the independent, hard-line Khalqi group which favours the traditional class struggle approach to socialism. Moreover, the Parchams have always been considered closer to Moscow and that is presu- mably why their leader was chosen to be President, Prime Minister and secretary general of the PDPA. The current round of hos- tility between the two factions dates back to 1978 when they joined forces after 10 years of estrangement to overthrow President Muhammad Daoud. The new-found unity was, however, shortlived and within weeks of the coup the Khalqis gained the upper hand. Mr Babrak and his closest associates were first forced into diplomatic exile as ambas- sadors and then fell into complete disgrace when they were stripped of their posts. Several hundred other senior Parchamis suffered the even more disagreeable fate of im- prisonment and torture for allegedly plotting to overthrow the Government. The tables were reversed when the Russians invaded Afghanistan at the turn of the year. The exiled Parcham lead- ership was installed as the dominant element in the new Government.



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## OVERSEAS

## £2.7m for Turner breaks art record

From Michael Leapman  
New York, May 29

A painting by the English artist J. M. W. Turner was sold here today for \$5.4m (£2.7m), a record for a single painting. The work, "Julius and the Nurse", was bought anonymously at auction at Sotheby Parke Bernet, the New York branch of Sotheby's of London. The seller was Mrs. Flora Whitney Miller, chairman of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. The proceeds will go to the museum. The under-bidder was Mr. Stanley Seeger, the London-based Greek who recently bought Sutton Place, the estate of the late Mr. Paul Getty in Surrey.

The highest previous price for a painting was \$5,544,000 (£2.7m) paid by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for the "Portrait of Juan de Pareja" by Velasquez. This month Van Gogh's "Garden of the poet, Arles" was sold by Christie's here for \$5,200,000. The Turner painting, measuring 3 ft by 4 ft, was first exhibited at the Royal Academy Exhibition in 1838.

The purchaser of the Turner is believed to be a private collector from Argentina, a newcomer to the market who took the art trade by surprise with her lavish bids at the Ford and Garbisch Impressionist painting sales in New York 10 days ago. (Geraldine Norman writes).

She was known as "the mysterious woman in white". She was the under-bidder on the \$5.2m Van Gogh and secured two paintings by Gauguin, one at \$2.9m and another at \$1.8m. She bought Van Gogh's "Jardinière" at \$1.9m.

The price of the Turner brought gasps of amazement yesterday. The Constable oil sketch illustrated in *The Times* yesterday, "A barge below Flatford", was sold shortly after the Turner for \$155,000 whereas it had been estimated to fetch a mere \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Constable's Brightwell Church and Village, page 18

## Mr Shamir's hard line strengthens hawkish tone of Israel Cabinet

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, May 29

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the hard-line politician nominated to succeed Mr. Ezer Weizman in the crucial post of Israeli Defence Minister today gave a public pledge that the Government would never abandon existing Jewish settlements on occupied Arab land, or even agree to a temporary freeze on building new ones.

His uncompromising remarks confirmed the impression among many political observers that the right-wing Israeli Government is moving towards a more hawkish position on many Middle East issues.

The immediate result has been to further increase international pessimism about the chances of finding a formula for agreement between Israel and Egypt on the question of Palestinian self-rule.

A founder of the notorious Jewish underground "Stern gang" and a former Mossad intelligence agent, Mr. Shamir was addressing his first press conference in Israel since his appointment as Foreign Minister more than two months ago. He has been widely tipped as a possible successor to Mr. Begin, the Prime Minister.

"The creation of Jewish centres of population in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) is an expression of our aim to create an Israeli presence in this area," Mr. Shamir said forcibly. "We are sure that this is indispensable for our existence and our security. It is also our right. We will never give it up."

Mr. Shamir flatly rejected a suggestion that Israel should agree to a temporary freeze on settlement activity in an effort to end the impasse in the autonomy negotiations.

"Settlement is not against the spirit or the letter of the Camp David agreement," he said. "The aim of the autonomy is not to create a Palestinian state in these areas without any Israeli presence. Autonomy is to give the Arab population in these areas the chance to rule

their own life—but there will be Israelis."

A number of questioners raised the problem of Israel's fast deteriorating international image, which Mr. Shamir acknowledged without any suggestion of any future flexibility.

"We know the difficulties, obstacles and misunderstandings we face in explaining our policy in Europe and elsewhere but this is not sufficient reason to change it," he said. "Our policy is dictated by the necessities of our existence and security."

Mr. Shamir was sharply critical of the much-heralded European initiative on the Middle East which most Israeli ministers expect to be launched formally when EEC leaders meet next month in Venice.

"What we have heard so far about the European initiative gives us the impression that the propositions, statements and decisions will disturb the process of peace," he said.

Although maintaining his desire to see peace talks with Egypt continue, Mr. Shamir gave no indication of how or when the suspended autonomy negotiations will restart.

Throughout the 50-minute conference Mr. Shamir skillfully avoided any comment on the bitter political dispute within the ruling coalition about his projected appointment and replacement at the Foreign Ministry by another noted hawk, Mr. Yitzhak Mordechai.

Russia date: The long-awaited visit of King Hussein of Jordan to Washington is to take place on June 17 and 18, the White House announced today. (David Cross writes from Washington).

The visit, which will be official rather than private as once planned, follows a long hiatus in relations between the United States and Jordan in the wake of the Camp David Middle East agreements.

The Jordanian leader had originally planned to visit Washington privately in the spring, at which time a meeting with President Carter might well have taken place.

## Sadat snub for lawyers who opposed peace moves

From Our Correspondent  
Cairo, May 29

President Sadat of Egypt, apparently upset with lawyers who have opposed his peace moves with Israel and criticized his domestic policies, failed to appear at an award giving ceremony today during which he was also to address the audience in a nationally televised speech.

The absence of Mr. Sadat gave rise to speculation that he was displeased by the news that Mr. Hosni Mubarak, the Vice-President, brought back yesterday from talks in the United States, Britain and West Germany on efforts to resume the deadlocked negotiations with Israel.

The President's address to the lawyers on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the faculty of law of Cairo University was billed by the morning press here as an important political speech that would focus on the suspended Palestinian autonomy negotiations with Israel in the light of Mr. Mubarak's talks.

Officials at first attributed the president's absence to a "mild ailment", but later Mr. Fuad Mohieddine, deputy premier, who deputized for Mr. Sadat at the ceremony, told reporters that the Egyptian leader had purposely avoided the event. He is "not at all" sick but just "displeased" with the choice of lawyers to be honoured.

Mr. Sadat has been unhappy with the lawyer's syndicate particularly after they burnt an Israeli flag the day the first Israeli Ambassador presented his letters of credence to him. The lawyer's syndicate, which also includes law professors, has opposed diplomatic relations with Israel before all Israeli-held Arab territory is returned.

A further indication that Mr. Sadat's health is not in jeopardy came when officials said he would, as usual, attend public prayers on Friday. Mr. Sadat, who is aged 61, had a heart attack about 10 years ago.



Steam rises from vents near Spirit Lake in Washington State. The lake is filled with debris in the wake of eruptions from Mount St. Helens

## Mr Carter alienates Congress leaders in dispute over Budget

From David Cross  
Washington, May 29

President Carter, whose relations with Congress have never been good, has now managed to alienate Democratic leaders of both the Senate and the House of Representatives in an angry confrontation over next year's Budget.

The row centres on the level of military and social spending in the draft 1981 Budget. After months of wrangling, the two houses of Congress have amended President Carter's original version of the Budget by increasing the amount of funds available for defence and trimming welfare, transport and education and training programmes.

A final compromise draft of the Budget worked out by representatives of both houses of Congress was due to go before the House of Representatives four days ago. It totalled some \$613,000m, of which about \$154,000m would be spent on defence, compared with the \$150,500m in Mr. Carter's original version.

The compromise has been bitterly attacked by liberal and moderate Democrats on Capitol Hill who have sworn to vote against it. They argue that when the country is in a recession priority must be given to social programmes rather than military spending. Their point of view is supported by such influential presidential advisers as Mr. Walter Mondale, the Vice-President, and Mr. Stuart Eizenstat, Mr. Carter's chief domestic policy adviser.

They apparently feel that if Mr. Carter sides with the congressional opponents of the Budget resolution this will stand him in good stead when he tries to rally liberal supporters to his cause during the forthcoming election campaign against Mr. Ronald Reagan, the Republican nominee, and Mr. John Anderson, the congressman from Illinois, who will probably be running as an independent.

The White House let it be known on Tuesday that Mr. Carter's support for the liberal cause would be forthcoming and promised its help in defeating the resolution. Yesterday, however, Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, the leader of the Democrats in the upper House, and Mr. Jim Wright, his counterpart in the House of Representatives, expressed their dismay that the President had chosen to oppose the Budget resolution.

Senator Ernest Hollings, the Democratic chairman of the Senate Budget committee, was particularly scathing in his comments about Mr. Carter. He accused the President of being a "hypocrite" guilty of "outrageous, deplorable conduct" for arguing that the compromise

provided too much money for the military.

Mr. Carter's notice here that the President travelled to the naval base of Norfolk in Virginia on Monday to welcome home the crew of the aircraft carrier Nimitz, which has been patrolling the Gulf area for the past five months or so. He told the cheering sailors that he would support improved fringe benefits for naval personnel to the tune of between \$400m and \$700m in the 1981 Budget.

Moreover, for the past few months Mr. Carter has been a leading advocate of increased military spending to counter possible Soviet expansionism in the wake of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. This theme, of course, alienated liberal members of Congress, whom Mr. Carter is now trying to please by opposing the Budget resolution.

Campaign trip: President Carter went campaigning today in Ohio, where one of the last primaries is to be held next Tuesday (Patrick Brogan writes from Washington).

He told his audiences: "We've made tough decisions. We've taken the heat. We've done what was right and we've always told the truth." It was his first overtly political trip outside the White House for seven months, said thousands turned out to see him.

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## Ogaden swells refugee flow in Somalia

By Our Foreign Staff

Pierce, persistent fighting against the Horn of Africa and Cuban forces in the area is bringing the Horn of Africa close to disaster, at Western government and relief agencies.

At least 1,300,000 Somalis and Galla and tribespeople have fled from Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Government says they are assisting similar numbers of people in relief camps.

The plight of the mainly nomadic herdsman roam the barren expanse of thorn scrub—would be enough to make any responsible. The drought past two years is being compared in its effects to the drought which reaped disaster in 1972 when 220,000 were said to have died in Somalia.

Now there are said to be 674,000 in Somali camps, double the number months ago, and about 100,000 in makeshift camps elsewhere. In 1975, when 13,000 already died in the drought, the daily death toll was put at 70. Today, agencies are speaking of a "hunger crisis" among the children with 61 per cent of the population dying.

American State Dept officials say that the displaced Somalis in the Gulf area for the past five months or so. He told the cheering sailors that he would support improved fringe benefits for naval personnel to the tune of between \$400m and \$700m in the 1981 Budget.

Moreover, for the past few months Mr. Carter has been a leading advocate of increased military spending to counter possible Soviet expansionism in the wake of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. This theme, of course, alienated liberal members of Congress, whom Mr. Carter is now trying to please by opposing the Budget resolution.

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	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
1st year	11.00%	11.25%	11.50%	12.00%	12.50%
2nd year	11.25%	11.50%	11.75%	12.25%	12.75%
3rd year	11.50%	11.75%	12.00%	12.50%	13.00%
4th year	11.75%	12.00%	12.25%	12.75%	13.25%
5th year	12.00%	12.25%	12.50%	13.00%	13.50%

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2-year ☐ 1-year ☐

I/We require that my/our interest be paid monthly or at 6-monthly intervals (if appropriate).

I/We understand that the investment is made by contribution to the fund of the annual contracted term, except in the case of death and that, after the contracted term is completed, the investment will continue in the scheme subject to 3 months' notice of closure by means of or to the Society and that the rate may vary but the differential over share rate is guaranteed.

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Or into a new Share Account, in my/our name \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

ABBEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY, 180 OXFORD STREET, LONDON W1E 3JZ.

## Kampala gives big welcome to Dr Obote

Kampala, May 29.—Thousands of Ugandans lined Kampala's streets and cheered former President Milton Obote today on his return to the capital after nine years in exile.

At Entebbe airport he was embraced by Mr. Paulo Mwangi, a long-time associate, who as chairman of the military Commission that overthrew President Binaisa is considered the most powerful man in Uganda.

Dr Obote is expected to stay in Kampala for a few days and then visit his native northern region.

The former president, who was overthrown by Idi Amin in 1971, is expected to be the presidential candidate of the Uganda People's Congress in elections this year.

## Pakistan critic of martial law arrested

Islamabad, May 29.—Air Marshal Asghar Khan, former Air Force Commander-in-Chief and leader of the banned Tehrik-e-Istical Party, was arrested in Karachi today after remaining free for about seven weeks during which he vigorously campaigned against the continuation of martial law.

It is reported that the air marshal defied the Government ban on political activity and addressed the Hyderabad Bar Association yesterday. He attacked martial law and the recent regulations curbing the powers of the high court.

After his arrest he was thought to have been flown to Peshawar where he was wanted in connection with case registered by the police.

## California is warned to expect huge earthquake

Los Angeles, May 29.—Buried in the *Los Angeles Times* 200 or so pages today is a fascinating map and chart that can be found alongside the columns of statistics listing smog, pollutant standards, high and low tides and long-range forecasts stretching from California's high sierras in the north to the Mexican border.

For some time now the newspaper has been carrying detailed maps listing yet another regular part of the golden state's daily natural phenomena, its seismic activity.

The latest summary appears to be bigger than usual because in the last week residents of the northern California resort community of Mammoth Lakes have been jolted by three earthquakes registering the Richter scale.

In the wake of these tremors another expert has warned that the state is facing a "catastrophic" earthquake. The pattern of this last of earthquakes is quite out, notes Professor Alan Rens of the University of Nevada. A geophysicist, he says the shocks are similar to seismic sequences in California and Nevada, the latter usually caused by a damaging earthquake.

In other words we are for the really big one, even like the 40-second that shattered San Francisco and had an 8.5 mag



RSEAS

t party goes ti-left raign

May 29.—The chief Party official in Tibet, dismissed in a move to eliminate influences within the leadership, it was reported, was an army man. The new appointee, Mr. Wang, is a former member of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Mr. Wang had been in Tibet since the late 1950s. The dismissal of Mr. Wang was seen as a move to bring the Party closer to the Tibetan people. The new appointee, Mr. Wang, is a former member of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Mr. Wang had been in Tibet since the late 1950s. The dismissal of Mr. Wang was seen as a move to bring the Party closer to the Tibetan people.

Tension in Korea will not turn into war, Chairman Hua claims

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, May 29. The tense situation on the Korean peninsula will not be allowed to develop into a war which could undermine China's growing ties with the United States and Japan, Chairman Hua Guofeng, suggested today. Calling on Japan to close ranks with China, West Europe and the United States against the Soviet Union, Chairman Hua told a press conference in Tokyo today that there is no chance of the North starting a war on the Korean peninsula. "There has been talk about the North moving southwards. It is unfounded. As far as I am concerned, reliable intelligence reports inform us that the North does not have the slightest desire of intervening with the confusion in the South unless the South starts a war to divert attention," he said. He went on to accuse the South Korean army of raising a democratic movement in the South. "We want to see the two Koreas united but by peaceful means," he said. Chairman Hua, on the third day of his first official visit to Japan, was in an affable mood this afternoon as he praised the results of unfettered capitalism in Japan, described the United States as "our American friends" and claimed there are no threats to economic cooperation between the industrialized nations and China. Launching an indirect attack against the Soviet Union this morning, the Chinese leader claimed that China had developed nuclear arms and intercontinental ballistic missiles to break the monopoly of the superpowers. He claimed the Soviet Union was attempting to impose its hegemony over South-West and South-East Asia with the ultimate aim of dominating the world. In the circumstances, Mr. Hua made it abundantly clear today that China would raise no objection if Japan rearm itself as a military power again. We believe that an individual nation has the right to equip itself for defence. But we will not tell Japan what to do. China does not interfere in the internal affairs of other nations," he said. However, it is now widely known that both China and the United States have privately urged Mr. Masayoshi Chira, the Japanese Prime Minister, to expand the country's outlay on defence spending from the present level of 0.9 per cent of the GNP. Described in Peking just a few years ago as "the running dog of capitalism," Japan's were praised, effusively today. "Japan has strong relationships with the United States and it is endeavouring to strengthen its ties with Western Europe. This is a fine thing," Chairman Hua said. Overawed in Tokyo by his first look at some of the world's most efficient factories, he said today that the only limit to economic cooperation between capitalist societies and socialists would be China's inability to "digest what you have achieved."



Demonstrators hurl stones at a rival group during an electioneering argument in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

Surrender call to Assam student leaders

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi, May 29. The student leaders who have been heading the agitation in Assam for eight months have been asked to surrender within 15 days. The ultimatum was given by the Assam Government at the behest of Delhi and applies to nine student leaders who have gone underground for the past month. The situation in lower Assam, the districts of Goalpara, Kamrup and Nongwaing where the Bengali-speaking population is concentrated, is far from stable. The Army is patrolling Nongwaing. The student leaders have blamed Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Congress Party for "instigating communal troubles" in the state.

Mr. H. C. Sarin, principal adviser to the Governor, said that law and order was endangered "causing anxiety to the state administration." More street fighting: With the death toll now standing at 28, street fighting and arson erupted in Assam again today, according to reports reaching Delhi. On the fourth successive day of violence between Assamese and immigrant settlers, two people were hacked to death near the railway township of Bongaigaon in Goalpara district. The police opened fire to disperse a mob in a village near Bongaigaon. There were no casualties.

Reports in the state capital of Gauhati said the indefinite curfew introduced early this week in the worst affected areas of Nongwaing, Kamrup and Goalpara districts were maintained. Thousands have fled the areas worst affected in the agitation by Assamese demanding the deportation of about five million immigrants from Bangladesh and Nepal.—Agence France-Press. Women protest: A woman was killed yesterday in Imphal during a protest against a proposal to use the Army to quell the rebellion in Manipur (Our Correspondent writes from Delhi). Agitation by women has been seen in Imphal twice before—in 1939 women held up a British

political agent and asked him to stop rice exports to the area. Later thousands of women "arrested" the Chief Commissioner. The present protest began when Mr. R. K. Dorendra Singh, the Manipur Chief Minister, said he intended to use troops against the rebels, who are said to be militant Marxists. The Manipur insurgents and the hostile Nagas and Mizos are reported to have formed a common front against Delhi to press their demands for autonomy. This is one of the reasons why the Government has closed the entire border with Burma and brought about 8,000 soldiers into Manipur, according to informed sources.

Warning by Taiwan on Britain's 'castle'

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong, May 29. The fate of the former British Consulate in Taipei and its historic red-brick compound—known as "Red Hair Castle"—is still hanging in the balance. The Government in Taiwan has given the British Government until June 30 to suggest conditions for the takeover of the "castle"—also known as "Hung Mao Cheung." The ancient buildings, which overlook the Tamsui river approach to Taipei, were originally built by the Dutch during the Ching dynasty. But the British built the consular residence when they moved in and signed a lease with the Chinese authorities in 1867. The scenic compound covers just under three acres and the buildings occupy about 2,400 square yards. The "Red Hair Castle" was closed when the British broke off diplomatic relations with the Chinese Nationalists in 1972, and the new United States Institute has a technical mandate over the compound, which is closed to visitors. But the Taiwan Government owns the land and has told Whitehall that if no response to its request is received, the compound will be seized and reimbursement of the estimated value of the buildings adjusted later. The "Red Hair Castle" buildings are said to be in good condition and a move is afoot to have them converted into museums "to indicate the end to a dishonouring page of unequal treatment in Chinese history." But some government authorities recommended that the castle should be demolished and replaced by a modern highway.

Foreign Report is on page 12

lians nickname Court building 'Gar's Mahal' dge's dream comes true

Alton, May 29. In criticism of the High Court which the Queen opened this week, the Court are at the Canberra, the High Court geographically in the middle of the city, it is the extravagance and even the building that has attracted attention. The dream of Sir Garfield Barwick, Chief Justice, to build a foreign minister's residence with the so spectacular is its that it has been nicknamed "Gar's Mahal". The design to be in the Indian monument style, many consider it would be difficult to build. The concrete, it has been said, has been poured from the top of the hill, it seems to how it wants to

look. Those who dislike it are understandably perplexed about its cost: \$A50m (about £25m). Nevertheless, some approve of it, and one enthusiastic expert likened it to a "glorious Gothic cathedral, taking its place with Chartres, Salisbury and Notre Dame". For others, it is "an unhappy, unlovable, miserable, monumental tombstone". Inside, it is overwhelmingly opulent, which has also drawn criticism. The ceiling of the vast ceremonial entrance hall soars up to become the floor of the ninth level. On this floor are the suites of Sir Garfield and his six colleagues, the High Court judges of Australia. The suites are magnificently luxurious. Sir Garfield's rooms, including a vast main office, are more like a small ballroom. The lifts servicing the suites, and the rooftop garden, are for the use of the judges only. Each judge, apart from a giant office, has his own robing area, bathroom, staff office, balcony and bar and tea-making facilities. Sir Garfield's office and balcony command magnificent views across Canberra's lake, city and the hills beyond. Each

suite leads out into the library in the middle of the ninth floor. Furnishings throughout tend to be soft Italian leather. The top level boasts the formal dining area, common room and the roof garden with honey myrtles, Chinese elms and long-leaved wax flowers in big concrete boxes. The three courtrooms, far down below all this, are simple, but splendid. In the ceremonial court, the Commonwealth coat of arms has been fashioned as an imposing tapestry. It took four weavers five months to complete. Throughout the entire building, and particularly in the judges' suites, are a fine collection of Australian paintings. The Labour Party has particularly objected to the extravagance of all this, but it is built and open, and it makes the nearby Parliament House look quite humble. Tree stumps: A healthy sapling planted by the Queen when she opened the new high court building on Monday disappeared overnight and was replaced by a similar variety.—Reuter.

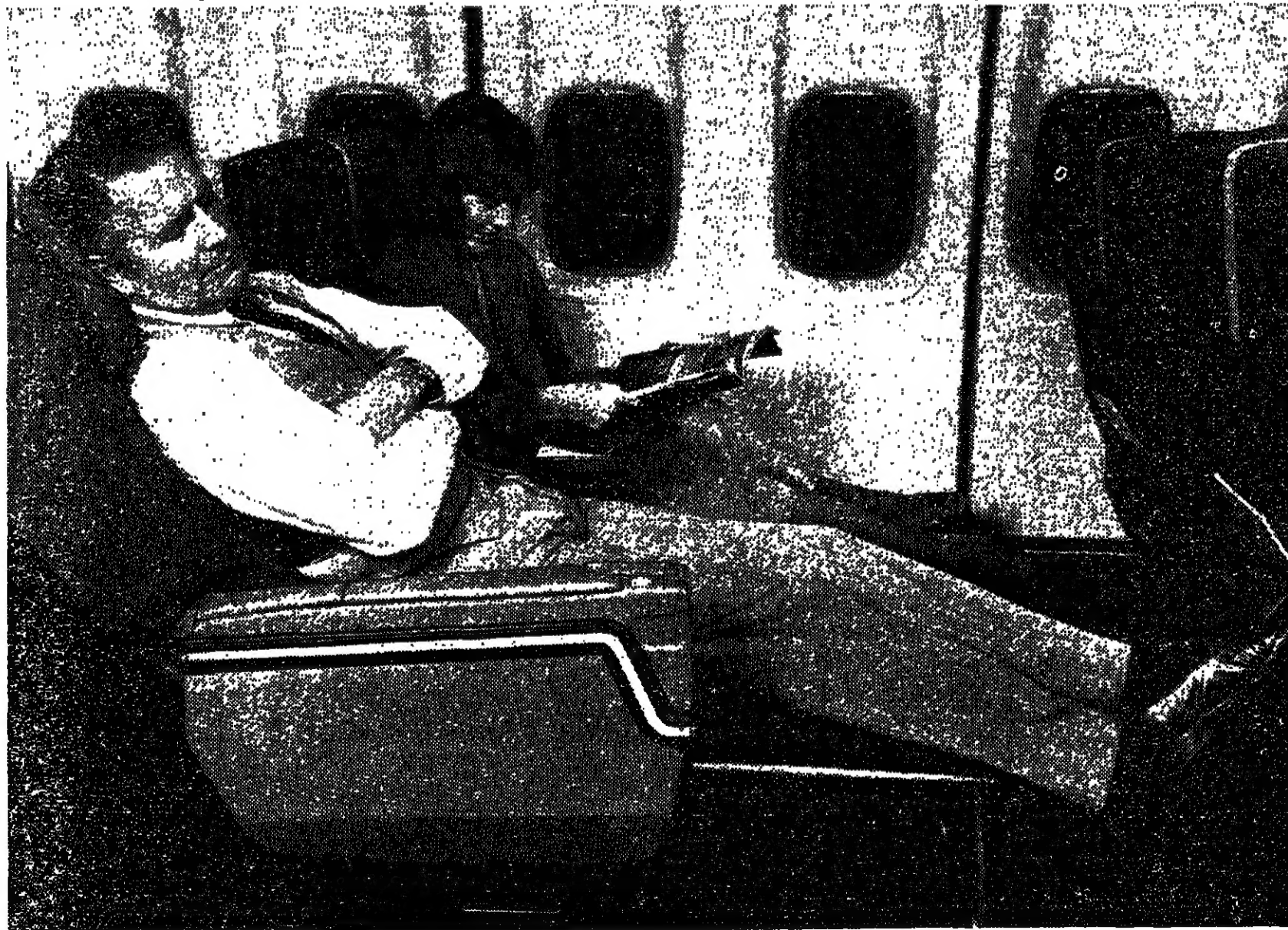
ught brings hunger to Brazil

Knights, May 29. Drought which hit the north-east of Brazil, destroying two crops, affecting people and forcing them to recruit half into work fronts, urged with an even stiffer. The normal rain fell between April and May, but the running, and the famine, and the millions have been searching for food. Space Research indicated that the drought, and also only reach its peak in 1983, before petering out. The drought has been the worst in 100 years. Half a million people have died in the drought. The drought has been the worst in 100 years. Half a million people have died in the drought.

canals of 12 rivers, building thousands of reservoirs, and drilling 10,000 wells. But unless prolonged rains fall, they will only be useful when the next drought comes along. So far this year, 264 municipalities have called a state of emergency, compared with the 500 which did so last year. At its peak last year, 10 million people were affected by the drought, which covered more than two thirds of six of the eight states of the north-east, and parts of the other two. The North-Eastern Development Authority, Sudene, was set up in 1958, during the last drought, to deal with future droughts, but many suggest that Sudene has made things worse rather than better, and little preparation seems to have been made. The north-east is a region with little industry, a few very large estates, and many small farms. More than 70 per cent of the population live on small holdings, producing only a small surplus of cotton or beef for sale. The rest is consumed by the families. Sudene's main effort has been in offering incentives for the industries of the south-east to relocate, or even open branches in the north-east. The region, which 200 years ago was responsible for most of Brazil's wealth,

and all of its exports, now only makes 5 per cent of the country's industrial products. Many of the new industries destroyed more jobs than they created by making cheap, mass-produced goods available. The small local industries could not compete, and nothing was done to absorb the displaced manpower. The main reason for the north-east being so neglected, is political. The several small states of the north-east have, and continue to be those on which successive governments have relied to maintain their majority in Congress. Large landowners have been able to persuade, or force the workers to vote for them, and the region also returns far more MPs to Brasilia per thousand inhabitants than do the more populous states of the south-east. One result of the drought is that the exodus from the interior to the coast is reaching flood proportions. Large coastal cities such as Fortaleza, Recife and Salvador, already bursting at the seams, and with very few jobs to offer, are being overwhelmed by the influx, and services are threatened with breakdown. The opposition parties had already gained control of some of the cities, and this can only accelerate.

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## FOREIGN REPORT

## California to vote on cutting state income tax by half

In radio, commercials the raspy, unmistakable voice of Mr Howard Jarvis, the author of California's Proposition Nine state income tax cutting measure, urges listeners to buy a new monopoly-like game called *Ass Your Tax*.

"I have endorsed the new and ingenious tax game because it's both instructive and fun—and it may even teach players how to save tax dollars," he explains.

The public obviously is paying attention to that sales pitch, for so far nearly 100,000 games, at \$13 (about £5.15) apiece, have been sold, although Mr Jarvis says the tiny percentage he gets goes to his non-profit tax fighting organization.

Unfortunately, however, for Mr Jarvis, it appears the public is paying less and less attention to his more serious exhortations—to go out on June 3 and vote in favour of Proposition Nine which will slash state income taxes by half.

A month ago Proposition Nine—dubbed *Jaws II* after the stunning victory of *Jaws I*, the 1978 Property Tax Bill, Proposition 13—looked all set for victory.

But today, with the Jarvis backers having spent a whopping \$3.2m to get their message across (the opponents have spent \$410,000) the measure looks as if it could be heading for defeat.

A recent *Los Angeles Times* opinion poll indicated that the proposal is "not going over nearly as well as Mr Jarvis's first proposition. There is strong evidence that tax cutting fever in California—the most populous state in the nation—is waning."

Opinion poll experts have discovered that most people believe the present state structure is fair and are satisfied with what they have to pay. And there's a growing feeling in California that the measure is purely a rich man's fringe benefit. That argument has been used quite effectively by Mr Jerry Brown, the California Governor, who said that the 10 per cent of Californians who earn more than \$40,000 a year would



Howard Jarvis, author of tax-cutting Proposition 9.

get more than half of the savings under the proposition whereas the 90 per cent of wage earners would be left with the "scrums". If the election were held today, the newspaper poll noted, 52 per cent would vote against it, 38 per cent in favour, and 10 per cent would be undecided.

Still, despite the turn against his campaign, Mr Jarvis, a 77-year-old who loves nothing more than an argument, believes in his latest proposition, which he says is virtually a son of Proposition 13.

"It really grew out of the fact of what Professor Arthur Laffer (the University of Southern California creator of the Laffer curve) and other economists said about the positive effects of tax cuts on the economy. We are convinced that the sur-

plus in California is going to be bigger than it ever was."

Others beg to differ and they have been in part responsible for Mr Jarvis being in trouble.

Mr Jesse Unruh, the California Treasurer, contests Mr Jarvis's claim that the state surplus will be \$9,000m and says it will be closer to \$2,500m.

But the most convincing argument against the proposition came from a group of California Democratic Congressmen in Washington who warned the state that it could lose \$2,300m in federal funds if Proposition Nine was; for this would force a reduction in the state and local spending on major welfare and education programmes.

Washington can cut off funds if state or local governments reduce spending on about 11 federal programmes. For exam-

ple, California spends about \$1,000m a year on schooling for handicapped children. Washington contributes \$72.4m to this effort. If California was to reduce its spending in this area by a single dollar they could lose the entire amount.

Opponents of Proposition Nine also believe that if state taxes were reduced massive cuts would have to be made in school budgets and lead to higher fees for students attending state colleges and universities.

The ballot measure does not affect taxes Californians pay to Washington. But because of the way state income tax is structured it would lead to a 54 per cent cut in the amount residents have to pay to the state on their adjusted annual income. Businesses that do not pay corporate taxes, those called sole proprietors and partnerships, would receive the Jarvis tax break since their income is treated as personal income and is thereby covered under the state's personal income tax code.

With the mood of the voters clearly evident, even the hard-punching, resilient Mr Jarvis is being forced to switch campaign strategy.

In televised debate he accused Mr Ira Reiner, the powerful Los Angeles City Controller and a strong opponent of his measure, of shady political dealings; and he repeated those allegations in radio commercials.

But then Mr Jarvis halted the commercials and showed up for another televised confrontation with Mr Reiner who was prepared for some more mudslinging.

Mr Reiner started in disbelief as his opponent declared: "I wish you luck in your campaign for mayor." Then he told the startled audience: "He would be just the politician to cut government fat."

Is a new Jarvis game plan in the works? One wonders, to rescue the floundering measure in the final laps of the campaign?

Ivor Davis

## President Pinochet's Chile

## New constitution prepared in secret

Inside the regime of President Pinochet in Chile, an intensive debate is going on about the country's future constitution. The old constitution was effectively torn up in the coup of September, 1973, since when the military junta has been ruling by decree.

The debate now focuses on a shadow constitution which has been prepared in secret by a constitutional commission consisting only of men who have the confidence of the military Government. President Pinochet intends to postpone the introduction of a new constitution until one can be designed which would give Chile a system with built-in safeguards to avoid any return to Marxist politics.

The military Government believes that Chile's close escape from a Marxist takeover at the hands of President Salvador Allende was the result of a liberal constitution which Allende found too easy to abuse.

The argument within the regime concerns both the principle of whether or not any return to civilian rule is advisable—and should it be so—the pace of such a return. Hardliners, both military and civilian supporters of Pinochet, object to the principle because they do not believe that Chile has yet been purged of the democratic poison which allowed Marxism to come in under the guise of a pluralistic democracy.

They believe it would be better to let the return to democracy if it opened the risk of a Marxist revival; they therefore want only a token constitution which will not give its institutions any real power. They would prefer an appointed Congress and a structure of authoritarianism reminiscent of Franco's Spain or Vargas's regime in Brazil.

These hardliners point to the success of the Pinochet regime's

economic policy, which has brought a recovery from the collapse of 1973 and reduced inflation from 1,000 per cent to 38 per cent. They claim that there is now little social unrest, but that this stability can be maintained only by military vigilance and the continued exile of up to 60,000 Chileans formerly of the Left, who could not be kept out if there was a genuine return to democracy.

The hardliners argue that, if necessary, a whole generation should be allowed to pass so that the old-style politicians—particularly Christian Democrats such as ex-President Eduardo Frei, whom they hold ultimately just as responsible for the crisis as his successor Allende—can be discredited completely and forgotten.

A kind of collective paranoia seems to affect Chile's hardliners, who imagine that Chile is engaged in a world war against an international Marxist conspiracy, organized by the Soviet Union and that Chile is handicapped by undeserved ostracism from the rest of the world.

This attitude within the military mind explains why the regime maintains a climate of intimidation against potential critics of the dictatorship; insists on military control of the universities; retains a curfew; limits the size of any gathering; and bans the press from reporting on the regime's activities. It also explains why the regime reacts to any rumour of public demonstration in a way which suggests that they think that even a token expression of opposition on the streets constitutes a crisis for the regime.

Ironically, within the government machine there are two other factions fundamentally opposed to the hardliners. But while they are both basically in favour of a return to democracy, they differ on the pace and the manner of the return. These moderates point to the success of the Pinochet regime's

to remain for a further indefinite period of personal rule.

The "doves" within the regime believe that a new constitution must be announced soon and that the Army should return to its barracks now that the main task of saving Chile from Marxism has been accomplished.

The disagreement stems from timing, since some would like the preparatory process for the new constitution to start now, while others only want President Pinochet to make a declaration of intent, coupled with an undertaking that his intentions could be negated only by a referendum.

Last month the new constitution was about to be unveiled, with suggested starting date of 1985. Then all went quiet. The reason may have been because the hardliners found unexpected support from those technocrats within the regime who do not want Chile to be disturbed by democratic disquiet, or they have pushed through all of their radical programme.

Their first priority is still the completion of what is known as the "seven modernizations" of Chile's whole economic, social and administrative structure. They intend to create a state machine based on Friedmanite theories, so that whatever politicians inherit power after the dictatorship they will find that the system inexorably circumscribes the way they can use it and reduces their ability to buy votes through undisciplined or irresponsible allocation of resources.

The leaders of this group are known as the "Chicago Boys" because of the technical expertise of American university graduates who have put the Chilean economy back on its feet, though at a cost of chronic unemployment, reaching 20 per cent in some areas. They have also introduced more recently a labour law which cuts trade union power.

The other modernizations will concern education, municipal government, transport, social welfare, administration of justice and agriculture. The Chicago Boys approach their work like evangelists, but they do not trust a democratic structure—even a token one—to allow them to achieve their objectives with the same freedom and speed as they can with the power accorded them by President Pinochet.

Even the Chicago Boys admit their radical programme would never be acceptable to conventional politicians, nor could it be introduced in a system which could pass premature judgment on them through the ballot box or be influenced by vested interests and lobbies, in the way that liberal politicians are.

Indeed their sensitivity to criticism is vividly illustrated by this week's expulsion of a group of critical economists within Santiago University.

Consequently, the Chicago Boys are themselves not yet ready for any token Chilean return to democracy, since they believe their programme would be jeopardized. So far they have President Pinochet's ear and his support for their programme.

While their basic interests in a return to a democracy are second place to their view that the military regime is more likely to support their radical programme, they will argue that President Pinochet should remain in power for at least another 10 years.

Charles Douglas-Horne

## Minister with a soft spot for the grocery trade

At the end of last week Mr Walker was to be found in the company of Sir John Sainsbury, another of his favourite grocers. "The time has come," the minister said as if he had spent a lifetime composing scripts for television commercials, "for the British housewife to see that when she brings home the bacon, she brings home British bacon."

Mr Walker is a grocer's son who serves in a government led by a grocer's daughter. Although Conservative governments are always supposed to be more favourably disposed to farmers than Labour ones, Mr Walker appears to be more interested in the consuming than the producing end of the food chain.

The Labour Government which was defeated more than a year ago was keen on extracting more food from the fields, slaughterhouses and dairies of Britain. The Conservatives are more interested than Labour

over was in improving the presentation and competitiveness of British foods when they reach the shop itself.

The Conservatives are eager to increase British food exports, believing perhaps that with an inflation rate of more than 20 per cent at home, only people who can afford to buy British food are abroad.

Ministers of New Zealand and the Irish Republic think it quite natural to encourage the promotional efforts of their food industries abroad. Such encouragement has never been common in Britain because this country has never been a notable food exporter.

The present Government wants it to become one. This country has been a strong exporter of some foods, like chocolate for many years. The Government wants it to sell abroad a much greater variety of foods like cheese and some cooked meats.

The policy of Mr Walker is a

symptom of the gradual change in British eating habits to a more Continental pattern. Cakes of tea and glasses of milk are giving way to fruit juice and mineral water; pork pies are being replaced by pizza; and fish paste is giving way to liver pâté. Bottled milk, for long the mainstay of the dairy industry, is losing ground to milk for butter, cheese, yogurt and cream, and to a small extent to long-life milk.

Mr Walker wants to maintain domestic markets for British foods while encouraging companies here to win more sales abroad. When he appears at promotional events, like the Sainsbury effort to sell more British bacon, he may not be acting in the accepted mode of British ministers. But he is nevertheless following a path considered natural in countries which are traditional food exporters.

Hugh Clayton

Appointments Vacant also on pages 25 and 26

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Robert Fisk reports on how the peace-keeping forces are being harassed in the Lebanon

# The major who makes life a misery for the UN

Major Haddad has become a kind of King Lear, threatening the terrors of the earth from his little Ruritania, a hobgoblin monarch whose voice... is greeted with moments of stunned silence by the young officers in the operations room

Fhel el-Saqi, Southern Lebanon. At morning the Palestinian shells had landed on Major Haddad's toy town "capital" of Marjayoun. Small clouds of blue-grey smoke drifted lazily up from among the red roofs followed two seconds later by the distant sound of explosions. In the cramped village square in Fhel el-Saqi, the Norwegian troops of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon had watched the bombardment dispassionately, hands on hips, blue berets at a rakish angle, rifles slung nonchalantly over their shoulders.

Nearby newly-arrived Ghanaian troops tuned up their reggae band next to a ruined church. A soldier began showing Woody Woodpecker films on a smashed wall while a departing Norwegian colonel explained King Birendra's environmental wisdom in saving the architecture of old Kathmandu.

Just to the north, three flares rose majestically as a Norwegian platoon tried to find a range of Palestinian infiltrators near the River Hasbaya. A fire was still burning in Marjayoun.

Someone turned on Major Haddad's bible-thumping militia radio station. "My son," came a midwest voice over the airways "give me thine heart and let thine eyes obscure my way. For a whore is a ditch and a strange woman is a narrow pit."

There was something nervous about it all, and admirers

of Ford Coppola's Vietnam epic *Apocalypse Now* will understand the feeling. The scenes were dreamlike, difficult to remember afterwards because of their gaudy absurdity, impossible to forget because they so accurately symbolized the impotence of the United Nations' crippled mission to Lebanon and the tragedy of the country in which ten nations are currently risking a healthy slice of their military credibility.

According to United Nations resolution 425 of March 19, 1978, the 6,000-strong UNIFIL army was to "confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon", restore international peace and security and assist the government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area. There are those in New York (and apparently Dr Waldheim is one of them) who still believe that this ill-thought-out mandate can be fulfilled.

There are those who say that given a little more political goodwill from the parties concerned, the United Nations will be able to move south to the Israeli-Lebanese frontier—ignoring the fact that the mandate does not mention the frontier. They talk of tampering with the mandate, changing the emphasis from peace-keeping to peace-enforcement, ignoring the unpleasant truth that United Nations soldiers are in no strength to fight a battle with Lebanon's private armies.

Even more ignominiously, United Nations officials outside Lebanon point to the little



Israeli troops greeting United Nations peace-keeping forces arriving in Southern Lebanon.

United Nations flags that dot the Lebanese Christian enclave on their maps. In one sense the United Nations are already in the enclave, they tell you. But they do not say that the flags mark only isolated United Nations posts in which the troops—Norwegian and Dutch—are hostages to Major Haddad's latest intimidation. And you have only to visit a UN contingent to understand the palpable effect that

the Major's threats have had on UNIFIL. Within minutes of arrival at almost any battalion headquarters, an officer will be anxious to convey news of Haddad's latest intimidation. There will follow one of a familiar series of warnings: that Haddad's gunmen will shell a village if the Palestinians who are allegedly there do not leave; that Haddad's men will kill another Irish soldier if his militia are harassed; that his

artillery will destroy some mountain hamlet in UN territory if the authorities do not return his water supply and let him take a bath.

These threats, however unreasonable—even crazy—have created in UNIFIL an unhealthy obsession with Haddad's every personal mood. For the United Nations soldiers in Southern Lebanon Major Haddad has become a kind of King Lear, threatening

the terrors of the earth from his little Ruritania, a hobgoblin monarch whose voice—when it comes deep and booming over the United Nations' radio telephones—is greeted with moments of stunned silence by the young officers in the operations room.

Major Haddad is of course no madman. He is an intelligent, well-educated man who is not so much in his own militia,

murderous, though they have proved to be, in his Israeli incursions. And there lies the mystery of Unifil.

For no one in Unifil has any idea why the Israeli permit, indeed, Haddad's army, harass the UN lines. What, for example, is Lt-Col Yuradi Hamisrashi of the Israeli military intelligence doing all the time in the south Lebanese village of Bent Jbeil? Why is Lt-Col Gary Galut of the Israeli army so frequently liaising with Haddad's gunmen in the Lebanese Christian enclave? And what is the shadowy figure of Israeli Major Yehonatan "Yoni" Ben-Dor, General Erskine, the UN force commander, has constantly pondered the issue of Israeli involvement. "I have asked myself that question many times," he says. "I don't think the day-to-day harassment that we have been subjected to is in the interests of the Israeli authorities—we have had to focus our attention on this, making us less effective in preventing infiltrations."

Other United Nations officers take a darker view. They recall that an old Zionist plan submitted to the 1919 peace conference showed an Israeli state running almost as far north as the Lebanese city of Sidon. They believe the Israeli want to establish a Southern Lebanon and there is a theory current at United Nations headquarters that the Israeli army's Northern Command would like to re-occupy Southern Lebanon and that Major Haddad, the former Defence Minister, did not want to offend his chiefs of staff by ordering them to break contact with Haddad.

A few senior officers also nurse the terrible but unproved suspicion that Israeli troops were present when two UN soldiers were murdered last month. If even a fraction of all this mistrust is justified, then Unifil may be as doomed as its mandate.

Geoffrey Smith

## A manifest danger for Labour

The key question posed by tomorrow's special Labour Party conference is not whether the national executive committee's statement, on which the proceedings will be based, is a left-wing document. There can be no doubt that it is, even though it is compiled from previous conference decisions. Politicians point out frequently, but not unfairly, that journalists can give a distinctive bias to the news simply by their selection of items to report. Equally, it is not unreasonable for a journalist to point out that politicians can give a bias to the presentation of their policy simply by their choice from among the numerous resolutions adopted over the years.

In this instance the left-wing majority on the NEC have made a selection that will, they hope, provide a basis for the policy on which Labour will fight the next election and govern thereafter. There is nothing improper in this. The right-wing would, and should, do the same in comparable circumstances. The critical question is whether this statement will serve the left's purpose. Will it, once it has been adopted, become a document from which it is impossible to disentangle the party?

There are mixed feelings among Labour's principal right-wingers as to how much it matters, with a number of them attaching relatively little importance to it. The next election is a good way off. The party usually has an "irresponsible" frolic when it goes into opposition, without this having much bearing on what it will do when it comes back into office. In any case, the party leader will ensure that nothing really unacceptable will get into the manifesto when the time comes.

So the argument runs. It is

plausible, but in its more simplistic form it is dangerous. In the first place, it is not true that policies adopted in opposition have little influence on what will be done once a party is installed in government. A manifesto can serve two purposes: it can be a prospectus of a party's policy, or it can be a statement of the difference between the party's present policy and the policy it would like to see adopted.

That is why so much attention is paid within the party to fulfilling manifesto commitments. This is a powerful consideration for any Labour government: it can divert ministers' quite considerable time, the course of action which they would otherwise have pursued. The Labour government's consideration for any Labour government: it can divert ministers' quite considerable time, the course of action which they would otherwise have pursued.

It would be a mistake to assume that in the future, any ministers will be free to begin a totally new life once they are

sitting comfortably in their departments. It is true that the longer they are there the more their policies will be determined by the pressure of events. But to begin with at least, their actions will be much influenced by the baggage they bring with them.

Can the party rely, then, on the leader ensuring that no dangerous explosives get into that baggage? It seems likely that the outcome of the constitutional rows which have preoccupied the party since the election will be either to leave the responsibility for the manifesto to the party as a whole, or to leave it to the party leader, and the NEC to settle between them—or conceivably to change the decision-making machinery so as effectively to bypass the party.

But it does not follow that whoever is leader next time will be able to exert the same degree of control over the manifesto that Mr Callaghan did last year. There is a feeling, not confined to the left, that was just a bit too high-handed, so

there would be greater resistance to any repeat performance. It is always easier for this kind of psychological authority to be exercised by a Prime Minister than a Leader of the Opposition. And so long as the NEC's agreement to the manifesto is still required, the process depends upon the leader's bluff not being called.

According to the conventional wisdom, no NEC could under the traditional arrangement force the party leader to go into an election with a manifesto that was unacceptable to him. No manifesto could be produced at all unless both sides agreed, and if he withheld his consent the NEC would never dare to push their views so far as to plunge the party into a leadership crisis at such a time.

But that argument can be used both ways. Can one really imagine that any of those likely to be leading the party into the next election would on the brink of the campaign forego his chance of becoming Prime Minister? If such a conflict were to arise again at the eleventh hour there would be a

test of wills, which the leader would stand a fair chance of winning. But there would be an equal prospect of a messy compromise.

If the right-wing are to be at all confident of not being landed with unpleasant policies they will have to fight that battle well before the next election. At the moment Labour is on the way to becoming a party of moderate men and militant measures. The constitutional conflicts seem on the whole to be going against the left.

The method of electing the leader and of reselecting the party will probably not be changed so as to weaken the grip of the right and centre on the parliamentary party. But the left are winning the policy battles because they are filling a vacuum.

It is not surprising that there should be such a vacuum when the party has spent so many years in office and when the managerial right—a distinct force from the right wing of ideas—has been in the ascendancy. There is a good deal of fresh thinking taking place on the right, with books in prospect from a number of the leading figures on that wing of the party. But there is world of difference in politics between the production of interesting ideas and the jelling of those ideas into a party strategy.

That is the stage which the right have yet to reach. They must do so if they are not to find themselves in positions of prominence in a party going along a path which they have no wish to travel. They still have time. Tomorrow's proceedings will not be decisive. But they should be a warning to the right of what will happen if the party concentrates too much of its attention on the constitutional battles.

## What did you say your name was?

known to her as the world's greatest authority on the subject, she was at the moment most intensely interested.

My own experiences have not been so traumatic but nevertheless disturbing. On first lunching at the London club, I was fortunate enough to join. I asked myself not separately but as I was told was proper, in a vacant chair at the long table between two other members. As I would have done at home, I introduced myself. The two gentlemen cringed. The obvious horror, the one blanching, the other turning scarlet, as if I had uttered a ghastly obscenity to his grandmother. Then silence for the rest of the lunch.

Having learned from that gaffe, I now begin a conversation with my neighbour without pride with some such remark as, "Would you care to see the book I just bought at Harrods with which to strangle Legrand Marnier after his yesterday's speech in Commons?" I asked, as once, particularly if, as may well be the case, I fail to know, because of the lack of an introduction, that my table-mate is himself Legrand Marnier.

I have had a hundred happy conversations with rich gentlemen, next to whom I have sat at that luncheon table, many serious and indeed intimate. I would have liked to have seen more of many of those momentary companions. I just wish, the hell I knew who they were.

Alfred Friendly  
The author has served as the London correspondent of The Washington Post.

Philip Ho

## Would you like next winter's fuel bills to be the same as this year's or even less?

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Tallinn is my favourite city in the Soviet Union. As the train from Moscow draws in past the Gothic spires and ancient walls of the medieval city you feel you are coming to a different world—gentler, cleaner, quieter, more refined than the harsh, hurried, political atmosphere of the Soviet capital.

Tallinn—literally "Danish town"—is one of the most perfectly preserved Hanseatic cities of northern Europe. And as it sheds the wooden scaffolding which has shrouded almost every ancient structure for the past two years while craftsmen, plasterers and painters have been at work, a strikingly beautiful ensemble of red tiled roofs, twisting cobbled streets and gabled facades emerges to dazzle the tourist. A £14m facelift has repaired years of drabness and neglect to get the Estonian capital into shape for the Olympic yachting regatta.

Tallinn, or Reval as it used to be called, is the small capital of the smallest Soviet republic. The city has less than half a million inhabitants and Estonia, roughly the size of Belgium, has only 1,400,000 people. With an extremely low birthrate, there are fears that the Estonians, now only 64 per cent of the republic's population, may soon be unable to resist gradual russification as immigrants from other parts of the country come to fill the high-paid vacancies in the most efficient and developed economy in all the USSR.

But the Estonians have long struggled successfully to preserve their rich national culture, though they have always been at the mercy of their powerful neighbours—Russia, Germany, Sweden, Poland. Like the other Baltic republics, Estonia, flat, sparse and stony, has been a battlefield throughout history. In 700 years they have known only 20 years of fleeting, sparkling, deeply mourned independence, from 1920 till 1940.

The Estonians are part of the Finno-Ugric peoples who swept across from Mongolia. They have broad, fair faces, a language that is rhythmic and impossible to detect and a close kinship to the Finns. Tallinn is just across the Gulf of Finland from Helsinki. After the incorporation of Estonia into the Soviet Union all links with Finland were cut. But now things are easing up.

A regular ferry brings hundreds of Finnish tourists over every weekend. Most come on vodka binges and spend two days in perpetual intoxication in the elegant Viru hotel. They sell their jeans, shirts and anything else they bring to finance their drinking, which goes on until they are rounded up by the police on Sunday evening and dumped back on the boat home.

A Finn recently explained that this unfortunate image of the drunken Finn in Estonia stems partly from deep-seated

## ESTONIAN DIARY

My valve system suggests that if you don't normalise our monetary imbalance, you'll get a right going over...



social attitudes. Throughout history the Estonians were the wealthier, more cultured, more developed people while the Finns scratched a living across the Gulf. Since 1940 the situation has been reversed. But some Finns still need to show off their new riches, to flaunt their freedom in bad behaviour.

Links with Finland are not simply alcoholic. All Tallinn's Finnish television, which can easily be received with the help of a small, cheap adapter fixed to the set. It came as quite a shock when an Estonian guide told me how much she enjoyed *The Onedin Line* and BBC television comedies exported to Finland.

To Russians going to Tallinn it seems as though the western way of life has already arrived. It's our little piece of the "west", a Russian once remarked. The shops are better stocked, there are good cafes and restaurants, people seem better dressed, the radio broadcasts western pop music.

Above all, things seem to work in Estonia. There is a greater sense of initiative and responsibility. Private houses were permitted for many years after the war and some elegant leafy suburbs grew up on the outskirts of the old city.

Russian tourists can be seen everywhere in Tallinn. They come to buy up everything they can see in the shops, which causes some local resentment. Prime Minister, admitted at a recent press conference that Soviet tourists tend to buy clothes, shoes, meat, milk and so on but added disingenuously: "Some people prefer practical things to souvenirs. Perhaps they don't appreciate some of the same things they have at home."

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Yachting is not a sport for ordinary Russians, and the fleet of sailing boats now moored in the harbour is a sight to wonder if the bourgeois taken over. In fact each club together to buy which belong to sports clubs and factories.

The Olympic yachting will include every conceivable facility for both competition and press. It was tried out in at the annual Baltic regatta and was found by those took part to be well over. The Olympic organisers said the races will be a watch the events on cbs cut television only a few from the special press. They will have a bayu telex machines at hand are promised a phone, any part of Europe with minutes.

Unfortunately, yachting of the sports kind is the Olympic boycott. And yet one thinks of the right wrongs of the boycott: I seem a pity that British men, among many others, not to be there to give over to a competition which Estonians themselves fear Tallinn on the international map and could have some prestige. In their eyes, the Olympic make an to get up to Tallinn. I case. It is worth it.

Michael Bu



# The Times Summer Books

## avouring literary detours and digressions

ry Britain  
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marks  
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author of this highly  
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It took me some time to  
relish the virtues of *Literary  
Britain*. My mistake lay in  
attempting to read it right  
through from cover to cover  
like an ordinary book: the density  
of anecdote, reference and  
quotation is such that half way  
through I gave up saturation-  
coverage in despair and began  
exploring more selectively. My  
headache vanished, my pleasure  
increased at once and re-  
mained high to the end, for  
Morley is a master of the  
elegant digression—on the dis-  
semination of print outside  
London, on the literary pro-  
fession of the Cheshire Car-  
penter, on George Vancouver's  
music box or the irresistible  
influence of Mrs Radcliffe upon  
the titles of John Keats—and  
such detours may only be  
savoured slowly and in re-  
laxed style.

Glimpses of autobiography  
are tantalizingly modest and few  
in the 500 pages of this jour-  
ney round the numerous liter-  
ary sites of Britain. Nor are the  
sites all numbingly exacted  
But if you feel that you do not  
wish to know that *All Quiet  
on the Western Front* was  
first translated into English  
at Jordans in Bucking-  
hamshire, the fact that E. W.  
Hornung and Warwick Deeping  
first saw the light of day  
respectively in Middlesbrough  
and Southend does suggest  
that escapists writers for the  
middle classes might tend to  
come from the very places  
whence in their reading the  
middle classes wished most  
fervently to escape. Worth a  
tiny doctoral thesis, at least.  
You will find neither *Raffines  
nor Sorrell and Son* in the  
*Oxford Literary Guide to the  
British Isles* (1977), which main-  
tains a slightly more exacted  
view of English literature,  
though not without its own  
austere wit: the editors Dorothy  
Eagle and Hilary Carnell do  
remind us that Mrs John  
Knights in *Emma* declared  
that her family always enjoyed  
their holiday in Southend and  
never found the least incon-  
venience from the mud". A  
passionate Austenite who sniffs  
out Jane and her characters all  
over England, Mr Morley has  
strangely forgotten the  
Knights in Southend.

The two guides could hardly  
be less alike. Each is thorough  
but neither is exhaustive.  
Morley omits Kilvert (his  
most serious offence). *The Re-  
cruiting Officer* in Shrewsbury  
and *Falstaff on Gad's Hill*—and  
to enjoy a truly comprehensive  
view of the field you should  
acquire both, together with yet  
a third, Margaret Drabble's



Happy autumn fields in Lincolnshire, near Somersby, where Tennyson was born and found melancholy inspiration; from Margaret Drabble's *A Writer's Britain* (Thames & Hudson, £10.50). Charles Tennyson, the poet's grandson, described it thus: "Somersby is a tiny hamlet tucked remotely away in a corner of the Lincolnshire wolds. The slopes of wold and valley are dotted with copses and nobles trees, amongst which lie tiny villages and square-towered churches."

handsomely illustrated essay,  
*A Writer's Britain*, published  
last year. Morley offers a con-  
tinuous narrative up and down  
and in between the six major  
roads across Britain, with  
maps along the way and good  
indices of people and places at  
the back. Eagle and Carnell  
is more compact and designed  
alphabetically like a small  
glossary. Their maps are better.  
There are dozens, more likely  
hundreds, of discrepancies in  
content and taste. In Morley,  
for instance, you will find  
Buckden in Northamptonshire  
for its associations with Crom-  
well, Pepys and Sterne; it is

excluded from Eagle and Car-  
nell presumably on the ground  
that the Lord Protector was not  
a writer, that Pepys (more  
strictly, Mrs Pepys) was only  
burying gold there during the  
invasion scare of 1667, and that  
Sterne, as Morley admits, was  
curate at Buckden for only a  
very short time. Neither do  
they allow Churchill in Cham-  
well nor George Fox in Leices-  
ter: Morley has both, the first  
because he admires Churchill's  
prose highly, the second be-  
cause of the striking apocry-  
phal to the Quaker's leader  
workshop in Carlyle's *Sartor  
Resartus*.

The great joy of the informal,  
as distinct from the encyclo-  
paedic approach to literary  
travelling is that the reader is  
constantly taken by surprise—  
Aubrey at Avebury, Crabbe in  
Wessex, Kipling on Radnor's  
Wall—and one of the most  
effective devices in *Literary  
Britain* is Morley's skill in en-  
dowing a place with more than  
one writer and allowing them  
to enrich one another: we see  
Coleridge, supremely, through  
the eyes of Hazlitt; *Middle-  
march* (written in *Rosseter*)  
with Leslie Stephen and Henry  
James; the indignant Words-  
worth ruffled when called

"giddy" by the fearlessly win-  
some author of "The boy stood  
on the burning deck".

The more you enjoy travel-  
ling the more you know, al-  
though it is more generally held  
that the reverse is true. Frank  
Morley possesses the great  
popularizing gift of his contem-  
porary H. V. Morton: the  
minute after he has told you  
something, you feel you have  
known it all your life. He per-  
forms the task with a lifetime's  
knowledge and affection from a  
clear head and a full heart.

Michael Ratcliffe

## Green fingered mysteries

Landscape with weeds by  
Graham Rose (Elm Tree Books,  
£4.95)

Graham Rose is the gardening  
correspondent of *The Sunday  
Times*. Without knowing for  
certain, I suspect that this is  
one of the many books to be  
published this year which will  
owe their existence in part to  
the suspension in publication of  
his and this newspaper through  
1979 and the consequent  
creative silliness of their con-  
tributors. In that sense the  
suspension may be likened to a  
hard spring pruning; an abun-  
dant of lesser early flowers  
were sacrificed for a few  
choicer and more substantial  
blooms later on.

Rose's regular readers will  
know that he is customarily  
both informative and entertain-  
ing, and this book is no excep-  
tion. However, on the principle  
that no true gardener will ever  
offer more than grudging praise  
to another, I have one substan-  
tial criticism which relates to  
the conceptual basis of the  
work.

As a gardening bore of long  
standing, I feel qualified to rule  
that the book is not nearly bor-  
ing enough. That is not as  
perverse a comment as it seems.  
The best literature and broad-  
casting about horticulture are  
imbued with an obsessive single-  
mindedness, a total mental  
obliteration of anything uncon-  
nected with the soil. Rose's  
account of how he transformed  
his Oxfordshire wilderness into  
a well-ordered garden is grip-  
ping to people who don't garden  
as well as those who do. The  
editor will have said, over  
lunch at the Garrick. So Rose  
contrived a sub-plot concerning  
what he calls his "slaves",  
friends from London who mo-  
tored down at weekends to help  
him with the work. They pos-  
sessed a certain right to be  
up there, now delivering crates of  
wine, now shifting stones from  
one end of the plot to the other,  
but they are never fleshed out.  
We learn that one is a film  
director, and we assume that a  
number are women, since he  
relates how local farmhands

(male) divert their tractors to  
watch them sunbathing topless.  
But we never know enough  
about them to make them in-  
teresting. Indeed, we would be  
able to identify better with the  
author's own heroic efforts if  
we knew more about him. Only  
in the very last chapter does  
he sketch in some of his back-  
ground, but by then it is too  
late. As a gardener, he must  
know that only by building a  
sure foundation, by determined  
spade-work, can you hope for  
first-rate results.

Easily the best drawn charac-  
ter is Sner, a countryman who  
comes by the garden regularly  
and makes dampening com-  
ments on Rose's efforts. Every  
gardener has a Sner in his  
life—sometimes a real person,  
sometimes metaphysical. It was  
Sner, the perennial messenger  
of doom, who first noticed the  
onset of Dutch Elm Disease.  
Rose's authoritative account of  
the development and origins of  
this disease is, incidentally, one  
of the most interesting parts  
of the book.

If only he had restricted him-  
self to such meaty stuff, but  
again trying to broaden the  
appeal, he stuffs the work with  
anecdotes. The really funny  
anecdotal gardening books are  
those in which the protagonist  
can make a convincing case for  
himself as a bumbling uncompe-  
tent—something which Rose,  
with his impressive credentials,  
cannot do. He is therefore re-  
duced to describing incidents of  
such marginal interest that in  
one or two cases he loses inter-  
est and gives up half way. He  
starts a story about how he had  
to remove some newly erected  
fence posts to make way for the  
neighbouring farmer's harvester,  
fussing over whether it will  
damage his new lawn—but he  
never tells us whether it does  
so. Again he leaves us wonder-  
ing over the intriguing mystery  
of the poisoned terret, some-  
thing *The Sunday Times* in-  
sight team might have investi-  
gated with profit.

There is much to enjoy in the  
book, as well as useful tips  
about the care and maintenance  
of plants, trees and vegetables.  
Some of Rose's maxims are  
worthy of *The Thoughts of  
Chairman Mao*: "Nothing  
transforms a landscape more  
rapidly than a combine harves-  
ter" and "It is more satisfy-  
ing to obtain a good crop of  
something ordinary than a poor  
crop of something exotic".

You do not have to be think-  
ing of converting a wild garden  
yourself to read this, any more  
than you have to be thinking  
about going to sea in a raft to  
enjoy a book about Kon-Tiki.  
Like all true-life adventures,  
you read it to share it vicari-  
ously and to admire the spirit  
embodied in the enterprise.

Michael Leapman

## ove of the country

for several things  
different. The  
ks in front of me all  
ritain, yet hardly two  
in common than that  
written by people who  
country.

It takes extraordinary  
er, perhaps, has any-  
ed a region as David  
has observed North  
s in his seven years  
lars. Between Babil-  
(Gollancz, £7.95), his  
fiction book, is not  
pocographical. It's not  
ie-man's-eye-view. It's  
It is so densely writ-  
o keen is one to miss  
ained though, that  
tes take more reading  
a longer book.

Pownall reacts to  
e with an almost  
e response, and in Lan-  
e experiences perma-  
a sense of "Thim-  
... not a sense of  
ut its opposite...  
been done before and  
ne again." His rueful,  
proach inspires much  
riting with a wild  
like the accounts of  
real ambergris manu-  
om squids in (dead)  
stines, and the World  
Throwing Champion  
the field next to his.  
I'm not kidding. At  
time he is deeply  
y his habits.  
The ways that it was  
and. It is the abso-  
lute of history."

v and another in this  
e he imparts a great  
the hills and shores.  
Blackpool and, above  
aster, dominated by  
ment to Lord Ash-  
—Jimmy Williamson  
king, who ruled Lan-  
40 years. The book  
people, plays, pub-  
all loves them all, par-  
eople.

so much that it is ar-  
his original approach  
dly bounded subject  
wrote about this pre-  
before? that I would  
to bombard you with  
ems. Much better that  
his book. Please, do.

different is the out-  
o other authors and  
s, both prolific in  
ical books. If one test  
book is that it makes  
to explore, these cer-  
s. Jessica Lockhouse,  
always lived in the  
ts Borders of the  
t (Robert Hale, £5.95)  
re and the minutiae  
story, hamlets, farms  
manors, battle skir-  
a dynastic marriages,  
ws the raiders' routes  
Lancaster and along

the Well, crosses the Border to  
Liddesdale and Annandale,  
then turns south to Cheshire  
and the Welsh Border. The  
Scotts stream down to raid  
fiercely debated country which  
is now a peaceful backwater,  
with delicious names like  
Maids Meaburn; Brough  
Castle is defended by six brave  
Normans to the last man before  
falling to the Galloway hordes.

The indefatigable Maurice  
Lindsay gives us *Lowland  
Villages* (in Robert Hale's  
Village Series (£5.95)). Low-  
lands, of course, means not  
nearly the Borders and waist of  
Scotland, but up the east coast  
to Caithness and John O' Groats  
—a big canvas. Here are masses  
of up-to-date information,  
including whether it's a conserva-  
tion area, or a threatened build-  
ing, and places to be ex-  
ploring—like Eddleston's being  
the birthplace of the man who  
in 1852 gave Scotland a dry  
Sunday for a century and a  
quarter.

Turning the pages of these  
two well-researched books full  
of loving detail, fruit of years  
of devotion to a worthy subject,  
one is tempted unworthily to  
ask how few are they written?

"This garnering of knowledge  
has a scrapbook, or perhaps  
bedside-book quality which  
induces... appropriately? —  
a kind of fatigue as the mind  
constantly switches from village to  
village, family to family.  
Marvelous stuff, and rightly  
rescued from the ephemera of  
illustrated articles or broad-  
casts, yet put together in this  
way all the details do not add  
up to a comprehensible whole,  
or a total view of place."

Pamela Street's *Portrait of  
Wiltshire* (Robert Hale, £5.95;  
revised edition of the 1971 edition),  
is intensely personal like David  
Pownall's book, though other-  
wise as different as chalk from  
cheese—a Wiltshire saying, I  
learn. While neither a guide-  
book nor a historical work, it  
does communicate the feeling of  
every sentence the feeling of a  
county and the lives of its  
people, past and present.

It's chatty; filled, again, with  
random jottings of making dew-  
ponds stuck in a footnote  
mystifies me—yet knitted into a  
readable whole. And unasham-  
edly romantic, as in her reflec-  
tions on Stonehenge, or the  
ghost village of Imber, whose  
inhabitants the army evicted  
long ago. A shortage of  
scholarly information may dis-  
please some readers, as may the  
eager style enclosing "quite  
everyday phrases in quotes":  
"moved out" "slowing down"  
"rallied round". For Pamela  
Street, Wiltshire is a place of  
the living as well as history. One  
of her characters puts it aptly:  
"You can't buy association".

Next come a couple of busi-  
nesslike paperbacks stuffed  
with useful facts. A recent area  
guide in the New County Series  
is Bobby Freeman's *Gwent*  
(Robin Clark, £1.50), with notes

on chief villages, including  
local entertainments, under-  
standing each with a short in-  
troduction. Latest in the *Wales  
for Motorists* series ("park and  
walk", perhaps) is *South  
Devon* (Frederick Warne,  
£1.50), where Alan Coles  
briskly guides 30 walks in the  
Plymouth-to-Sidmouth area, in-  
cluding sketch-maps and useful  
summaries of what each walk  
is about.

The *Lake District, a Century  
of Conservation* (John Bartol-  
omew & Sons Ltd, £9.95) is  
no sense a guide but a account  
by Geoffrey Beard—here tem-  
porarily leaving his usual sub-  
ject of Georgian craftsmen—of  
the peculiar problems of con-  
servation in this wildest of  
English regions; followed by  
extended notes by Geoffrey  
Barry, Consultant Secretary to  
the Friends of the Lake Dis-  
trict, on his own 114 photo-  
graphs.

The Lakes are under con-  
tinual threat to their landscape,  
ecology and hence whole en-  
vironment. Their wild yet  
manageable character has a sig-  
nificance quite out of scale with  
their compact area, a 15 miles  
radius round Langdale Pikes.  
This peaceful region of remote  
hills and valleys and quiet  
meres has been the scene of  
constant battle. Canon Ran-  
sley started the campaign in  
1878 against Manchester's use  
of Thirlmere as a reservoir;  
eventually Friends of the Lake  
District were formed (1934),  
and in 1951 the Lakes became  
a national park. The fight  
continues.

Town water supplies make  
constant demands: lakes dammed  
into reservoirs create  
unstable waterlens, whose  
"draw-down" in drought  
leaves sterile shores endang-  
ering aquatic life and vegetation;  
whole valleys have been  
drowned and Mardale church  
and the Angliers Inn at Enner-  
dale are lost, apparently need-  
lessly. Insensitive, rather conifer  
afforestation, instead of hard-  
wood, is detrimental equally to  
the scene, its accessibility, and  
to farming. Here present  
policy seems to point to a  
happier future.

Then there are main roads.  
Early Lakeland motoring must  
have been a joyous adventure,  
very rough for very few, but  
reasoned protest failed to stop  
a motorised invasion. "Don't  
Californiate the Lakes!"  
In confrontations over the  
Penrith/Cockermouth road, the  
Levens Park inquiry, and  
others, amenity organizations  
were sometimes informed too  
little and too late.

This book could have done  
with a map. Apart from  
that, Jack, a valuable  
documented history for con-  
servationalists of how it was  
done in one unique, incessantly  
threatened part of England's  
most prized countryside. The  
problem is, how to prevent in-  
advertently destroying the thing  
we love.

## The rhythm of the sea

Here is a fair tide of books  
concerned with the sea and  
sailing craft. Anyone attracted  
by such a rich region of history  
will gain from a cruiser-weight  
volume called *An Illustrated  
History of Ships* (New English  
Library, £12.50) edited by E. L.  
Cornwall, which, though ex-  
ploring how sailing vessels have  
served man from dugout to  
Polaris submarine.

The sea has its own rhythm  
pacing the evolution of the  
world and there has been a  
fascinating variety of ships used  
to transport and trade, defend  
and attack. They have lumbered  
into action as galleons and  
Dreadnoughts, traded to every  
shoreline of the world as brigs  
and barquentines, square-  
riggers and schooners and after  
helping to discover the world  
became the principal vehicle for  
developing it.

From this perspective of  
ships as very important objects  
the book approaches its subject  
helped by a wealth of illustra-  
tions. In 15 sections the devel-  
opment of sail and mechanical  
propulsion are examined, the  
great voyages of discovery  
charted and the lives of leading  
mariners traced. Other chapters  
contain features on seafaring  
skulduggery, ships of war and  
peace, and what makes the sea  
a safe or a treacherous place  
to be.

We have heard most if it  
before, but everything is here  
in one volume. The ships of  
Sir Cloudesley Shovell's fleet  
founder off the Scillys, fol-  
lowed by a damp catalogue of  
disaster and names better  
known for being under the  
water than on top. That section  
concludes with the sticky end  
which met the Torrey Canyon  
not far from Sir Cloudesley's  
debate 260 years earlier. Plus  
ça change.

Since sailing has become a  
much more practical pastime,  
as any summertime creek, pond  
or estuary will testify, there  
should be ample bookshelf  
space for handbooks on how to  
do it. Roland Deek with James  
and Inge Moore have produced  
*The Complete Sailing Handbook*  
(Martin Dunitz, £9.95), a trans-  
lation from the German, which  
not only explains how to do it  
but dismantles the entire sperr  
down to the simplest clear and  
cold front. The book is perfectly  
suited to anyone who has actu-  
ally taken up dinghy sailing or  
kept boat cruising and is in  
those shoal waters of wanting  
a swift and simple explanation  
either for something he has  
done or of something someone  
has said.

The book is well illustrated  
with exceptionally clear dia-

grams and covers point by point  
all that is essential to sailing.  
For example, it is useful to  
know what to do when your  
mast snaps, your crew falls over-  
board or your boat bursts into  
flames. "Celestial navigation—  
a crash course" has a startling  
ring but the chapter removes  
much of the mystery from this  
ancient method of pinpointing  
position and the chapter de-  
scribing how to analyse the  
weather takes the same shrewd,  
point by point approach.

The leading marine historian  
and director of the National  
Maritime Museum, Basil Green-  
hill, has been looking closely at  
schooners, those most graceful  
of ships that, with square-rigged  
vessels, were the greatest class  
of pre-steam "marchantmen".  
Schooners (Batsford, £12.50) is  
a book liberally illustrated with  
photographs that capture the  
real peach-canvassed toughness of  
these working ships.

A schooner is distinguished by  
her number of masts and the  
set and disposition of her sails.  
The vessels become popular  
because they were cheaper to  
operate than square-riggers,  
required less manpower and in  
the New England and eastern  
Canadian winters needed much  
less work to be done aloft. By  
the early 19th century the  
schooners had been developed  
to a point where it could out-  
distance square-rigged pursuers  
and the rig was adopted on a  
wide scale by smaller British  
merchant vessels. Basil Green-  
hill relates a most curious sea  
battle in March 1918 at Uxer-  
ston in Cumbria between a sur-  
faced German submarine and  
two British schooners lying  
almost becalmed waiting for the  
wind. The sailing ships, armed  
under the 1917 scheme with  
three-pounder and 12-pounder  
weapons, surprised the subma-  
rine by firing back and a ding-  
dong battle lasted an hour  
before an armed trawler came  
to their aid. There is a clear  
whiff of nostalgia about this  
book for a type of vessel that  
was swift, efficient and aesthet-  
ically pleasing. Perhaps if the  
oil runs out Mr Greenhill will  
be able to dig out some of the  
old plans.

Back to our modern mariner  
picking his way along the south  
coast and trying to identify a  
confusion of landmarks from the  
pitching cockpit of a small boat.  
Modern charts give a bird's eye  
view of the coastline but  
Adrienne and Peter Oldale in  
*Navigating Britain's Coastline*  
(David & Charles, £5.95) have  
produced a landward view from  
the sea in the same way that  
Victorian charts presented what  
the mariner should be looking  
for in a crisp line drawing of  
particular headlands and  
features. The book covers Land's  
End to Portland, and is a useful  
aid to navigation, giving an  
unfolding view of what the  
sailor should be seeing from  
offshore and what he should be  
seeking to avoid. It is an inge-  
nuous development of an old  
idea.

I have lived right next door  
to the sea for almost seven  
years. The tide shuffles up and  
down the beach a few hundred  
yards away, huge weather  
fronts sail by overhead, fishing  
boats cast nets in the deep  
channel offshore, a neighbour  
combs the beach each morning,  
exercising his riparian rights,  
a colony of fulmars breeds on a  
nearby cliff and there are  
oyster catchers and waders  
galore. I am aware of all  
these things but what actually  
makes this marvellous rhythm  
of the shoreline operate?  
Susanne Beedeh in *Country  
Living by Sea and Estuary*  
(David & Charles, £7.50)  
explains for anyone living where  
I do how everything really  
works. There is little need now  
to guess.

Ronald Faux

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Mary Cosh



## The Times Summer Books

## The hooded gunman's anniversary

Fifty years ago the late Sir William Collins (Billy Collins then and still such a surety in the memories of all who knew him and looked in awe on the fount of energy that he was) conceived the ingenious idea of combining two current literary fashions, the book club and the detective story.

He decided to take from his firm's already considerable crime fiction list a regular output in a recognizable format—remember that hooded gunman—giving it some of the in-appeal of a club, though in fact without a restricted public. It says much for his acumen that, though the Crime Club has changed in some ways over the past half-century, it still flourishes today.

Originally the choice of titles was entrusted to a panel of experts in the then rigidly defined genre of the detective story. The importance—that is hardly too strong a word—that the detective story had in the life of the reading public of those days can be judged from the fact that the panel was headed by no less a person than Dr C. A. Allington, then headmaster of Eton, later Dean of Durham.

But in those days there was no television to occupy idle hours, and there were servants not a few to increase the number of hours that were idle. So a type of fiction could flourish that made demands only on the faculty of ingenuity, and not even necessarily on that merely sometimes on the desire to be puzzled.

To celebrate the jubilee 12 books from the club's first 25 years have been reissued in handsome gold jackets (green simulated leather underneath, by jink) under the editorship of Julian Symonds. He has been clever indeed in finding four new titles to add to the original list. So a type of fiction could flourish that made demands only on the faculty of ingenuity, and not even necessarily on that merely sometimes on the desire to be puzzled.

There is Philip MacDonald's *The Maze of 1932*, totally presented as evidence at an inquest (conducted with a somewhat unlikely informality) thus putting the reader exactly on a level with his holidaying detective reading, the transcript. There is an American offering of 1935 Obelisks Fly High by C. Daly King in which the suspects are confined almost throughout to a speed aeroplane. There is Freeman Wills Crofts' typical painstaking, time-consuming *The Loss of the Jane Vosper* of 1936, redeemed by some by no means despicable action writing.

And in that year Agatha Christie contributed *The ABC Murders*, marked by all her cunning in manoeuvring readers' responses and all her gift for telling us what we want to know while we want to know it (but not who done it) and nothing more than we want to know. This particular book is discussed interestingly in recent academic survey, *And Always A Detective* by R. F. Steadman (David & Charles, £12.50), a volume that contains some shrewd comments and much commendably deep-grubbing research among ancient *Blackwood's* magazines; and, indeed, book reviews in *The Times* of long ago.

Julian Symonds' other selection—each has an introductory 'swifly' pointing out virtues and often warmed by touches of personal anecdote—also come from the last five years of the club's first quarter-century, but Nicholas Blake's *Murder of 1947*, a book with a murder method as ingenious as any 1930s edict could have wished for.

What marks these later volumes is what happened to the genre as a whole during the past fifty years. Partly strict rigidity was abandoned and the Crime Club welcomed in such pure thrillers as Andrew Garve's *No Mask for Murder*. But, more interestingly, the detective story itself found a room for the sort of studies of people that might have been thought the main stream novel's province.

The degree to which this happened, of course, varied. It is less to the fore in Rex Stout's *Even in the Best Families*, a display cabinet as a play of the rules of cricket will still provide today's readers with something to hold interest.

dominant. Here, written in 1954, is a study of a person that reads as well today as it must have done then. And, mark this, the book is still a detective story, the sort of entertainment that the Crime Club has been offering munificently for half a hundred years.

H. R. F. Keating

Other volumes in the Jubilee Reprints are: *Enough To Kill A Horse* by Elizabeth Ferrars, *Spinsters in Jeopardy* by Ngaio Marsh, *An Afternoon to Kill* by Shelley Smith, *Which I Never* by L. A. G. Strong (all are at £4.75 each).

## A crop of novels

Grinning, bald, check-shirted John Barth in sober black and white leans from the shiny black and silver cover of *Letters* (Secker & Warburg, £7.95). A man of letters, he has things to say and in this case has given himself something like 350,000 words in which to say them. Furthermore, as you might expect from a good Alumni Centennial Professor of English and Creative Writing at Johns Hopkins University, he has chosen the good old epistolary style for his book thus harking back to Richardson and 'the origins of the English novel'.

As the 'author', called John Barth but still actually fictional, comments in an extraordinary letter to the Lady Ambrose, 'Rereading the early English novelists' I was impressed with their characteristic awareness that they're writing...'. His point is that the novel of letters makes no pretence of imitating real life directly; it reproduces life's documents thus removing the fiction one step further from the page. It is not that simple, of course, as Barth partially reverses the process by filling his book with characters from his own past works as well as his own fictional world in short he is engaged in creating that now-familiar fictional convention: a parallel world with echoes of our own.

The trouble is it is amazingly difficult to read. Some letters hang together brilliantly and you look forward to the next cycle to come round to follow in the same writer's character; again but others are just tiresome in their mythological and historical fantasies. Nevertheless, there is no doubting it grows on you as much of the feeling-mass of imagery and fantasy is given increasing lucidity as the book progresses, partly by a running narrative of contemporary history and partly by which the whole edifice is gummed together. Incidental pleasures abound including the feeding delights of Barth's truly prose, but the nagging doubt remains: is it not this just a bit too close to Nabokov's *Invitation to a Beheading*, a much greater but equally top-heavy book?

Back to the obligatory volumes of Blighy and Nigel Williams' *Jack* by Nimble (Secker & Warburg, £5.50). There are echoes here too, of Martin Amis most notably, but in fairness the similarities spring from the fact that both are dealing with the same cluster of issues: 'identity', youth, and whatever went wrong in the Sixties? Williams' particular elaboration of the *Jack* here is *Jack*, a writer whose lack of identity leads him to adopt a series of different characters, partly for the purpose of deluding himself but also to satisfy his gratuitous inability to understand anything that is going on. Helpfully, he is being followed by one 'Snaps' who crosses identity barriers with relative ease.

It is a hopelessly readable book as in the fundamentals of construction Williams is adept. Occasionally, though, perhaps not often enough, it is very funny; one of its few irritations being the way the style conveys too many obvious attempts at jokes and 'humour'—carrying with it a faintly undergraduate air. The sense of the book, a movement out of the turmoil to a kind of rough peace, is honourable, though not entirely successful in that it often happens the turmoil looks a good deal more sympathetic than the peace.

No, Not I (Hodder & Stoughton, £5.50) is Dee Phillips' first novel and it represents a debut of considerable confidence and certainty in its intentions. It is a simple story of a boy growing out of a broken home and finally, older and wiser, returning to try and patch it up. A devotion to realism marks every line, not just in the usual sense of setting but in the more complex area of character. Dee Phillips is a child psychiatrist and her knowledge of the incidental and arbitrary behaviour of children is full and precise, though occasionally oppressive. The whole single-minded precision and care of the book is perhaps its greatest virtue and the reason for its readability, though it also creates, in this reader at least, a yearning for escape.

Plenty of escapology in Jack Richardson's *Memorabilia* (Corgi, £5.50), a kind of confession of a man whose growing obsession with gambling leads him first to Las Vegas and finally to Macao in his pursuit of the metaphysical perfection of gaming and, indeed, his soul. It is an ambitious novel which attempts to include both the thrillerish



Caryatids and modern Athenian matriachs, whose shoulders hold the City of Athens suspended, from Henri Cartier Bresson Photograph (Thames & Hudson, £25).

appeals of gambling and a metaphysical search and fails, only because there is too much of the latter.

The Night of the Funny Hats (Hamish Hamilton, £6.50) is Elsie Davis' latest collection of short stories. Typically accomplished, these tales are of the cool, mythic genre from the first line they are clearly intended as universal and their foundation in the 'real' world is slight and oblique. Periodically, as in 'Pedestrian', this slightness allows them to blow away all together, but otherwise they are of a wise, wistful fascination holds them together.

The Last Peacock (The Bodley Head, £5.95) is Allan Massie's second novel and concerns a huge Scottish house in which the matriarch is dying and the relatives gather round, a too familiar convention for the novel. Indeed I feel the book draws in its conventions of character and of theme but for a good old, atmospheric study of old versus new, sex versus society and so on, it's all there.

For a straight, exciting, sexy ripping yarn there is Catherine Gavin's *How Sleep the Brave* (Hodder & Stoughton, £5.95). It's the last in her trilogy about the French resistance and it stars (the best word) the dashing Mike Marchand and Jacques Brunel. The periodic gaucherie of style ('Jacques stared into passion') are not too obtrusive and are the only nudes that might make you lay the volume down.

Finally for something completely different there is D. M. Thomas's *Birtstone* (Collins, £6.50) a 180 page, thoroughgoing fantasy involving ancient fertility rites, mysterious transitions of identity and elderly orgies all in our own dear Cornwall. It does not exactly make easy reading though there is a crossword-like charm in working out what is going on, even if it leaves you feeling exploited.

Bryan Appleyard

## Stacks of historicals

The advantage of being a historical novelist is that you seldom run out of plot, and the disadvantage is that you take some disentangling, too, to mention the fall of the Roman empire, you can spread it into a veritable saga, covering the end at least a yard of shelf. Anything under 500 pages is a slight volume. Too much research, too learnedly displayed, can stop the reader dead: too little research produces a late 18th century conversation containing the words 'may be' and 'perhaps' and 'indeed' but it's the cook that counts. Malafrena, by Ursula Le Guin (Gollancz, £6.95). Successful SF writer of great distinction turns her hand equally well to a first historical novel, set in a Roman Britain, harshly ruled by the Austrians. In 1820 the voice of freedom is heard from Italia Sordida, a young provincial landowner on fire with the love of liberty. Life at home in Malafrena a rich pastoral countryside of mountain and lake contrasts strongly with revolutionary journalism and poverty, living on the edge of danger in the city of Krasnoy, shattered in mind and body, Itale's passionate strength in love and in life seems to have been destroyed when he is imprisoned for two years. Those who love and believe in him have to decide whether his work was a romantic dream of youth, or whether he will be their true leader. First Stand in Danger, by Alexander Kent (Hutchinson £5.50). It's 1774, and 18-year-old Richard Bolitho is promoted to third Lieutenant in the frigate

Morlands, and the innumerable and remarkably fecund family. Richard III is a hero. Henry VIII (try saying it) the usurper. I didn't take to Eleanor as girl or matriarch, but the great-grandchildren might be nicer.

Amanda Miranda by Richard Peck (Collins, £5.95). An Edwardian setting for a familiar device—the strike-melting Hkeness (never explained) between the lovely Amanda Whitwell, a headstrong and wilful heiress and her new maid, nicknamed Miranda. Oddly stilted dialogue has a charm of its own, a lot of Upstairs Downstairs (that series has a lot to answer for) with handsome chauffeur lusted after by three characters at once. Dark secrets abound in the country (the Isle of Wight) and even more so in foggy London (the author is American) where the characters can just about find their way from Charles Street to Asper. The evil are confounded, the good triumph, the *deus ex machine* being the Titanic Barber fun.

See the Waters Burn, by Anna Taylor (Collins, £5.95). Part of a troupe of ragged travelling actors, brother and sister, Kin and Isabel are witnesses to one version of what happened in the historical mystery, the Gwilt Conspiracy. This leads them both, by different ways, to the English Court of the Scottish King James. It's a dramatic, curious story, given vivid life, and taking as its model, as the author acknowledges, aspects of Jacobean drama, and in particular, John Ford's *Tis Pity She's A Whore*. Excellent.

Philippa Toomey

## Pigs, foxes and Superhens

Not a good year for Foxes so far in children's paperbacks. At picture-book level we find Madam Lupino discomfited by a horde of pigs in Mary Rayner's *Garth Pig* and the Ice Cream Lady (Puffin, 75p) but you must read its predecessor first: *Mr & Mrs Pig's Evening Out* (Puffin, 80p) and a story-book level the long-nosed marauders of Foxgirth Farm are routed by a family of superhens in Dick King-Smith's witty and vigorous *The Fox Busters*—one of the most naturally funny children's books that have come out for a long time (Puffin, 75p).

On the other hand it's a good year for Small Rodents. As an illustrator Adam Baker has shown himself to be a master at catching and adapting the mannerisms of the species—witness his picture books about a short-tailed, rather dour hamster, Benjamin and the Box and Benjamin Bounes Back (Armada Lions, 80p each). He is also, though, the illustrator of Philippa Pearce's altogether more serious story *The Battle of Bubble and Squeak* (Puffin, 65p)—a tale which appears to be about Sid Parker's longing to keep two gerbils, but which is much more about the triumphant re-humanization of Sid Parker's mum.

A variety of other well-meaning, largely jolly animals is also to be found in the gradually lengthening series of picture books 'I Can Read' picture story books. Two of the best in the latest batch are Elsa Helmdorf Minarik's *A Kiss for Little Bear*, illustrated, not without reference to

'The Wild Things' by Maurice Sendak, and Arnold Lobel's *Frog and Toad Together*—a sequel to the quietly comic *Frog and Toad Are Friends* (World's Work, 80p each).

This complicated question of what makes for successful comedy in children's books is finally answerable only by the readers themselves—but if you would like a nice Broad-church view of the matter you can't do better than get the new edition of Lance Salway's *Humorous Books for Children*, a conversational introduction to more than a hundred picture books, stories and anthologies (Thames & Hudson, 1.10). For my part, I can find little in this Spring's paperbacks to measure up to the easygoing combination of words and pictures that Mary Rayner or Arnold Lobel achieve in the picture books. The individual wit of Dick King-Smith. There is a lot of forced farce—jokey volumes like John Aitken's *Help! I am a Prisoner in a Toothpaste Factory* (Knight, 65p) the funniest bit of which is the title—and few of the performers carry through their artificially constructed stories with the zest of Helen Cresswell in her *Baginboro Saga*. Three volumes of this are now in paperback: *Ordinary Jack* (75p), *Absolute Zero* (80p) and *Unlimited* (85p; all Puffin) and while you can see the engineering of plot and character that has gone into them, Mrs Cresswell has a bold sense of theatre and a brisk prose which keep the comedy going.

Indeed, the mere presence of a series like the Baginboro helps to show how thin and short-winded much of our current children's fiction seems to be. A much-praised novel about three children adapting to their new life in a foster-home for instance *The Whimsy* by Betty Byars (Puffin, 65p) may emphasise pythons through the quickness and the almost ironic humour of its dialogue, but it's too brief a book to do justice to its theme. And in a story based on the BBC's scholastic soap-opera *George and the Dragon* (OK, Armada Lions, 70p) Robert Leeson races through the tangled affairs of his half-dozen main characters in such a way as to turn their smart, spiky, devious natures into today's standard stereotypes.

There is perhaps an unexpected lesson to be learnt from *End of the Road*, those two stories from her classic period in the 1940's have just reappeared in paperback: *The Adventurous Four* and *The Adventurous Four Again* (Beaver, 65p each). Predictable they may be in their mixture of the banal and the preposterous (children defeat first the German navy, then dastardly gun-runners) but their more gradual plotting does offer a more substantial accommodation—for young readers' attention than do many of the fleeting tracts of today.

Or should we preferably single out this year's big, unpredictable originals? These are not for imitation, but are examples of authors thickening the brew of story with convincing detail, and drawing from characters and events not just gasps or laughs but also true emotion: Jean Aiken's picturesque adventure story *Saddle the Sea* (Puffin, £1.10). Rosemary Sutcliffe's romantic re-creation of the age of Boadicea *Song for a Dark Queen* (Knight, 85p) and Tashie Lee's oracular fantasy of the strange other world *East of Midnight* (Puffin, 80p).

Brian Alderson

Neil Philp

## Intertwine

The Mantlemass Novels, by Barbara Willard (Kestrel Seven vols, £4.50 each)

With the publication of her new novel *A Flight of Swans* Barbara Willard's Mantlemass series is now complete (though there is still space for further development), and to mark the occasion Kestrel, like the earlier books in a uniform style. Although some short stories remain uncollected it is now possible to view the sequence as a whole. The books, which trace the intermingling of a group of Sussex families, farmers, iron workers, horse-breeders, from the battle of Bosworth in the 15th century to the end of the Civil War in Harrow and Harvest have maintained a consistently high standard which has won them deserved popularity. The characters are strong, the plots both gripping and plausible, and the historical settings sketched with light but sure touch. There are no long-winded historical explanations, simply a sensitive exploration of the effect of great events on ordinary lives. The Mantlemass series is a study of people, not politics. Bravely, Barbara Willard takes the marriage of Ursula and Robin Medley, the young lovers whose affair was frowned upon by the law, as the starting point for *A Flight of Swans* and examines, with a disintegration from love to indifference to bitterness and pain.

Yet even at their saddest and they are books which move towards the light. The use of the conventions of historical romance, the Mantlemass novels are neither maudlin, sentimental, nor depressing. The sense of continuity is strong, as is the sense of place. A lesson is learnt from the past, as is expressed in a lesson which is expressed in *A Flight of Swans* in an image drawn naturally from the book's subject matter: 'God beats men as men beat at iron. An when all's finished, the iron so it be of good ore—makes a better shape from such hammering'.

The bright Robin of *The Iron Lily* becomes the embittered spy of *A Flight of Swans*, strong, independent, Lilies mazed old lady, put upon her servants. Lilies is brought very low in *A Flight of Swans* but by the end of the book she has regained her self-respect. Barbara Willard's achievement is that she makes both descent and rise entirely believable.

In general it is the women of the Mantlemass novels, Lilia Ursula, Cecilia, and Dan Elizabeth in *The Link* and the Laurel, Catherine in *The Spirit of Broom*, Cecilia in *Harvest* and *Harvest*, who leave the mark on the reader. They are robust, self-willed characters who would scorn to be classed with the conventional stammering females of historical fiction. Indeed, the character of Cecilia in the early chapters of *The Link* and the Laurel is to some extent a parody of such provincial figures: 'Oh, she cries bursting out with it. I was poor thing when I lived in London with my father and wit. Alys! She remembered that frail beauty, the tiny nose, the covered face, the small slight voice—and she made a sound of complete revulsion. Oh, what doll—what a puppet!'

It is the women who stick in the mind, and it is undoubted girls to whom the books appeal, but they are by no means effeminate novels.

## Summer Reading...

## BOB LANGLEY TRAVERSE OF THE GODS

I haven't enjoyed a thriller so much in a long time. This isn't just a war story, but a brilliant and inventive adventure in its own right. It really is in a class by itself, superbly written and quite unputdownable. JACK HIGGINS, author of *The Eagle* has landed £5.95

## STAN BARSTOW A BROTHER'S TALE

...the relationships are perceptively true and the narrative taut. Barstow knows the hearts and minds of his characters. — Observer  
It does not think there can be much doubt that this is Stan Barstow's best novel to date. Times Literary Supplement £5.75

## JERZY KOSINSKI PASSION PLAY

'A novel about polo? Impossible, of course; but not if Jerzy Kosinski does it. However ignorantly and reluctantly you may mount *Passion Play*, the thing is likely to insist on taking you along. The sheer intensity of Kosinski's application swiftly proves compulsive.' — Guardian £5.95

## LLEWELYN JONES SCHOOLIN'S LOG

Illustrated by Derek Crowe. The evocative record of life as it was lived, in the remote Pembrokeshire village of St Nicholas, half a century ago. 'Especially vivid and authentic and the writing itself is witty and fresh. What a lot one had forgotten! But here it all is, and just as it was.' RONALD BLYTHE author of *Akenfield* £6.25

## THE SHELL BOOK OF ENGLISH VILLAGES

Edited by John Hadfield. With contributions from Professor W.G. Hoskins, Olive Cook, Ronald Blythe, Miss Read and Paul Jennings amongst others. '1,000 of the most outstanding beautiful or historically interesting villages described. Beautifully illustrated with more than 120 colour and black and white photographs. A companion to the *Shell Guide to England* £8.95

From Michael Joseph

## NEW TRAVEL BOOKS

CANADA Nina Nelson £7.95

JAPAN Pat Barr £7.95

THE LAND OF EGYPT Jasper More £7.95

CRETE Robin Mead £7.95  
(Publication date 26th June)

POLAND Marc Heine £7.95  
(Publication date 26th June)

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# The Times Summer Books

## Great and small

Other people's jobs are fascinating, and if one finds it engrossing to conjecture how difficult it may be to be a split welder or a meteorologist or Chairman of British Steel, it's also interesting to try to hold down a job as an okapi or a lion or a midge. It's partly this, and partly the almost excessive visual appeal of all animals (especially those nature picture-books so attractive: well done, they're unputdownable).

Peaceable Kingdom (Allen & Unwin, £9.95) (where does the title come from? Jon Silkin's splendid poem of many years ago?) is such a book. Ann Guilfoyle has selected photographs from 17 guess, some of the world's best nature photographers; they are reproduced in ravishingly accurate colour, and simply set out as a handsome album (printed in America, wouldn't you know?). I say "simply" in fact Edward R. Ricciardi has provided a "commentary" about as muscular as that of a Disney film ("Night brings rest for the creatures of the day..."), and interspersed the various sections with quotations from Scriabin, Emerson, Loren Eiseley, Arthur O'Shaughnessy, Ecclesiastes and other well-known nature-lovers. I'm not sure whether he means to be witty, sometimes this is the effect. "For unto us a child is born," it says on one page, opposite a picture of something quite excessively nasty (an aphid, actually, indulging in a parthenogenesis, which it apparently does all summer long). Never mind, there are pictures here of really luminous beauty and tenderness, and sometimes comedy (if Kermit ever sets eyes on page 23, Ms Guilfoyle can expect to be sued for unwarranted intrusion into his private life, especially since he seems to be the one in front).

David Attenborough's TV series *Life on Earth* (The Reader's Digest, £12.95) has been leapt upon by The Reader's Digest, who have directed their talents to producing a large volume "based on the original edition", but also no better for its metamorphosis. Again, there are marvelous pictures, many of them remote from any specially peaceable connotation: contemplation of a Japanese spider-creeb three metres across, or a diadem spider happily tucking into a post-critial snack (her lover, nicely sedated), does nothing for my equanimity, and there are some nasty disembodyings later on. But again, "wonderful" is strictly the word, and "unbelievable" is another. Nothing in life could be as colourful as those South American frogs, dressed apparently for a music-hall appearance rivaling the Black Theatre of Prague at its most brightly fluorescent.

The book does seem in the end to try to do too much; to tell us, as the Victorian critic

put it, all, and more than all, that is known about even so vast a subject; so it becomes a book for browsing—often satisfactorily so, as when the designer offers us, say, a double-page spread on sea-slugs. Elsewhere, the less admirable traits of *Reader's Digest* take hold of it, and truly gruesome, old-fashioned art-work lies limp on the page, with ill-realised drawings of hypothetical prehistoric landscapes, or those nasty little oversimplified "figures". All this makes it more difficult actually to read Mr Attenborough, who as far as one can see is really rather interesting. From that point of view, this is a coffee-table book in the old, pejorative sense.

Falconry in Arabia by Mark Allen (Orbis, £15) offers a fine example of text allied to pictures in a more sensible way. The author has apparently spent some time among the Arabian Bedouin, and his account is not only of falconry but of the Bedouin way of life, with its astonishingly generous hospitality, good manners, noble deportment and the intensely proud tradition of a much misunderstood people. There are beautiful photographs and some excellent drawings by Mary-Clare Critchley-Salmonson; and as a bonus the book is printed on paper so good that it might well be 1935, properly bound and sewn. The text has an unselfconscious poetry about it, together with enthusiasm and knowledge. A lovely book.

And now, reference books, for the hand, the car, the shelf. The trouble with birds is that they won't keep still, and unless you're in the business of hides and disguises you can't get near enough to them, and identifying them (apart from knowing a robin from a crow) tends to be far more difficult than, say, telling a stockbroker from a baker, though in their respective plumage. The British Ornithologists' Guide to Bird Life Edited by Jim Flegg (Blandford Press, £10.95) is handsome, informative, comprehensive—but too large, perhaps, even for the car. I'm not sure why it is intended for; not me, I think, who certainly couldn't remember the difference in appearance between the turnstone and the little stint long enough to get home and check up. Also for the shelf is the *European Bird Book* (Ward, Lock, £9.95) nicely organized—picture of bird, silhouette of bird, little map showing haunts of bird, altogether on the page.

Collins' Bird Guide, by G. Stuart Keith and John Gooders (Collins, £5.95) on the other hand, with its 613 colour photographs of 464 species, is nevertheless reasonably compact, bound in one of those nasty but sturdy plastic covers. It doesn't only deal with British birds, so if you're cleaning your teeth into some Siberian lake and someone goes *jee jee* in your ear, all you have to do is turn to pages 602, and there is the Isabelline Warbler; and elsewhere there's a snap of him and very handsomely too. The pictures, by the way, in this and the two previous books, are practical, and only incidentally beautiful (though often that, too). The purpose is to present the birds in full view, so you can count

the waistcoat-buttons and observe the stitching round the armpits.

Hodder & Stoughton's *Natural History of Britain* series has five stoutly-bound volumes covering almost every conceivable type of landscape, every inch of space wall-filled and the back cover handily marked out in centimetres in case you want to measure the diameter of Bodmin Moor or the depth of Dozmary Pool. They are *Coasts and Estuaries*, by Richard Barnes; *Rivers, Lakes and Marshes*, by Brian Whitton; *Towns and Gardens*, by Denis Owen; *Mountains and Moorlands*, by Arnold Darlington; *Fields and Lowlands*, by Derrick Boatman at £4.75 each. Each book covers the ecology of its terrain, and then has a field guide identifying trees, animals, birds, plants. Difficult to over-estimate the value of this kind of book, given that you want to know more about the environment you're living or holidaying in. Illustrations dull but useful, and extremely prolific.

Great Zoots of the World edited by Lea Zuckerman (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10.50) deserves more space: authorities from the London Zoo write generously about world zoos, tracing their history and development, and recording many pleasures along the way. Here, Charles X feeding rose-petals to a giraffe, there Sir Edward Hallstrom charging around New South Wales confiscating this animal and that. The story of the recovery of the German zoos after the war is fascinating. And the book is incidentally a rational argument for those much-criticized places.

No pictures or conversations in *Why Big Fierce Animals are Rare* (Allen & Unwin, £7.95), in which Paul Colinvaux presents a series of thoughtful and stimulating essays on how nature works—checks and balances, efficiency, stability. He writes with enthusiastic clarity, and very good indeed is his writing, say, the territorial behaviour of some animals, or the way in which trees organize themselves into nations (as if we didn't have enough trouble with nationalistic humans). Actually, come to think, there are some charming drawings, by Vera Razzegry, but only such as to allow the text to breathe.

Wild Animals, Gentle Women by Margery Facklam (Harper Brace Jovanovich, £3.85) tells of a dozen women ornithologists and their accomplishments—Jane Goodall and her chimps, Karen Pryor and her porpoises, Dian Fossey and her gorillas. Pleasant, untaxing reading. The *Natural History of Shetland* by R. J. Berry and J. L. Johnston (Collins, £5.50) in a well known series, is for anyone actually going there and wanting to know about flora and fauna, not to say geology, vegetation, the diseases of the inhabitants: arterial disease prominent, longevity rampant, leprosy common (no, sorry, that was in the 18th century). Some come and others are destroyed. There is often a grotesque contrast between the public adulation and the private misery.

Peter Finch led as colourful a life as most. He was archetypal gossip column material, leaving a trail of hard drinking, two broken marriages, and a succession of well publicized affairs. He was also, given the right parts, a considerable actor, not that this would be easy to deduce from Elaine Dundy's biography, *Finch*, by Peter Finch (Michael Joseph, £8.50).

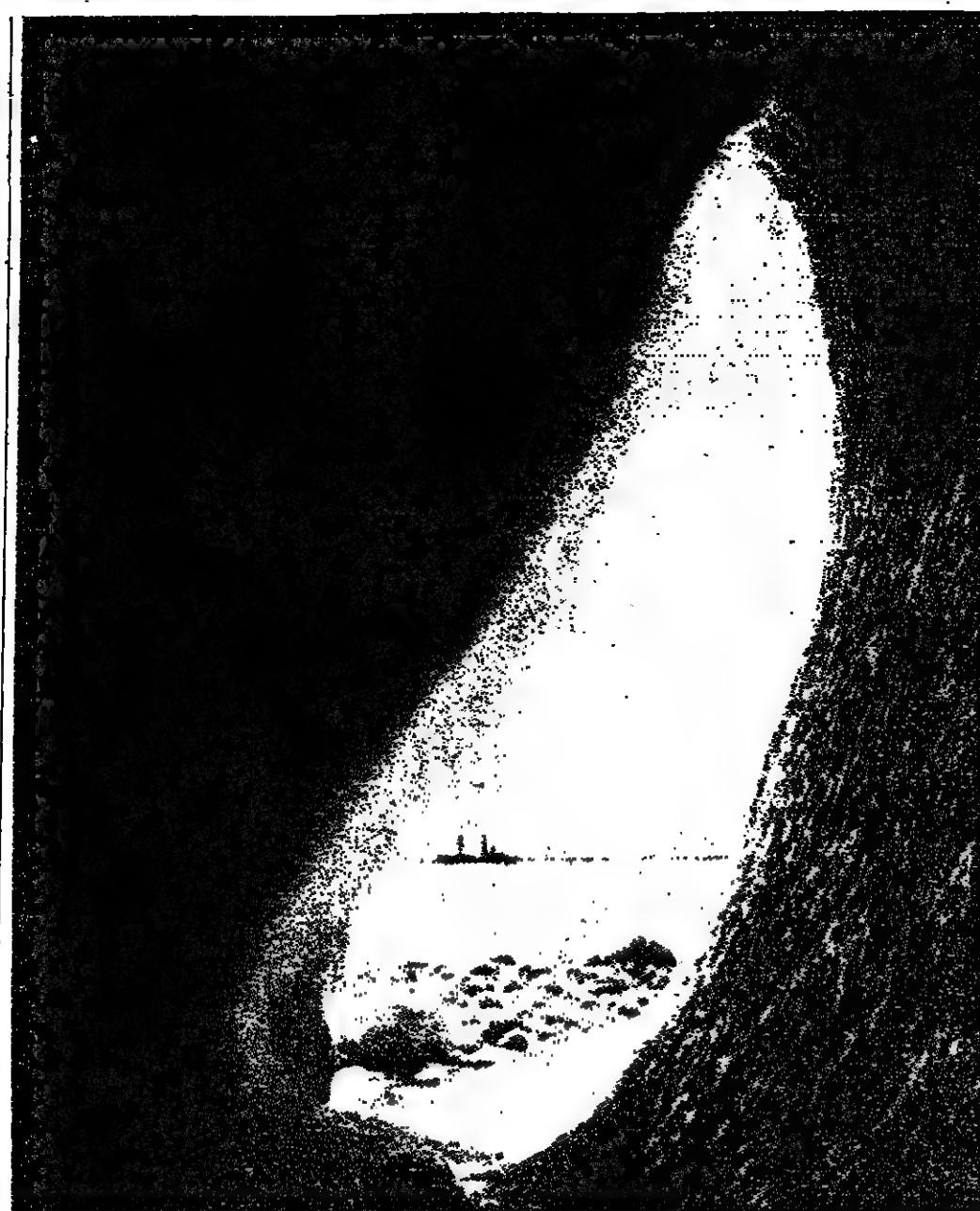
Though the author claims sympathy for her subject, her relentless exposure of his private life, is tasteless and often embarrassing. A woman's magazine style does not help and one is left only with a feeling of sadness that Finch should be commemorated in this way. Better, perhaps, to remember him for films like *The Trials of Oscar Wilde*, *The Pumpkin Eater* and *Sunday Bloody Sunday* than for his exploits with the bottle and in the bedroom.

Alan Ladd's is another sad story, without even Finch's talent to redeem it. Ladd was an improbable film idol, so small that he had to stand on platforms to reach his leading ladies and in retrospect, at least, a pretty wooden screen presence. But during the 1940s, in company with another fleet-footed idol, Veronica Lake, he made it to the top; later he was also co-star of the best Western, *Shane*. The checklist in Beverly Liner's *Ladd* (Robson Books, £7.50) is a reminder of how few worthwhile films he made and Ms Liner's racy, anecdotal text does not begin to explain the enormous popularity he enjoyed before drink and drugs took over and killed him at the age of 50.

What a pleasure and a relief to turn to a star who lived a largely happy and gossip-proof life, still working in his seventies and died, probably as he would have wished, on a golf course. Bing Crosby had talent, style and superb technique and was languidly modest about it all. The man who sold more records than anyone and was for five years running the most popular film star in the United States still made time to answer his avalanche of fan mail before starting the day's work.

The Crosby Years, by Ken Barnes (Eim Tree Books, £9.95) is a sort of dictionary of Crosby, setting out the main facts of his life—even his elusive birth certificate—the details of his many discs and films and the music of some of his songs. There is a personal memoir too. Ken Barnes produced six record albums with Crosby and knew him in his later years as well as most. The portrait is inevitably affectionate.

Jane Fonda belongs to a newer generation of stars, yet her life has been so worked over already that there seems



The Royal Geographical Society was founded in London on May 24, 1830. A crowded and enthusiastic meeting resolved that a society was needed "whose sole object shall be the promotion and diffusion of that most important and entertaining branch of knowledge—geography". In the 150 years since then the society has supported, financed, equipped, and advised almost every important expedition that has left Britain to explore the round earth's imagin'd corners. It sent Livingstone to Africa, Scott to the Antarctic, Hillary and Tenzing to Everest. This cavern in an iceberg for an unusual holiday, with Terra Nova in the distance, was photographed by Herbert Ponting in 1911; from To the Farthest Ends of the Earth, the history of the Royal Geographical Society 1830-1980, by Ian Cameron (Macdonald, £10.95).

## Star gazing

Star lives are endlessly fascinating and much better than anything Hollywood can invent. Stars, essentially, are ordinary people thrust into extraordinary circumstances. Some come and others are destroyed. There is often a grotesque contrast between the public adulation and the private misery.

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## The charm of fishing

One of the best showbusiness autobiographies of recent years was *By Myself*, by Lauren Bacall (now reissued as a Coronet paperback, £1.95). The title is apt for Bacall apparently spurned ghost writers and penned every word. It certainly shows. We feel with her what it was like, as a shy and awkward youngster, to meet her idol, Bette Davis; to pester New York agents for work; to be discovered on a magazine cover and whisked off to Hollywood to be made into a star, all innocence and still only 19.

There is a touching and sympathetic account of her unlikely marriage to Humphrey Bogart, a man many years her senior, until his premature death from cancer. Lauren Bacall has a fine eye for detail and is wryly amusing about her setbacks.

Peter Waymark

## The charm of fishing

One of Cromwell's not very successful commanders, Colonel Robert Venables, before he was committed to the Tower of London in disgrace, produced a remarkably good book on angling, and has achieved immortality because it would hardly seem worth trying them on the more opaque or faster limestone and spate rivers. The flies are difficult to make—one type involves putting a parachute hackle on one side of the hook shank and wings on the other—and their attractiveness is further handicapped by the strange names the authors have given to them. The "USD para-olive" and the "Geroff" are hardly names to conjure with compared to—shall we say?—a Greenwell or a Houghton Ruby. On such small things may fame depend.

However, these experimental patterns of flies are probably among the least important aspects of the book. The authors themselves say "If there is one message that we would like to emerge from this volume it is the paramount importance of observation in the business of successful angling". With the aid of the underwater camera observation has now been carried to a stage far beyond anything that could have been envisaged before. Robert Venables would have been delighted.

Conrad Voss Bark

## Touring royals

The summer harvest of royal books produces some important additions to the monarchist's library. For some time now the Burkes have been widening their scope under the editorship of Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd and making the life of the impersonator harder to fulfill. Their latest valuable contribution, *Burke's Royal Families of the World Volume II* (Burke's Peerage, £32, £26 until July 1) should find its way to the shelves of all major hotels, clubs and international banks, and should be consulted by anyone contemplating a holiday in Africa or the Middle East. It contains short histories and long genealogies of royal families as diverse as Ethiopia and Oman, Zululand and the Central African Empire.

Burke readers will enjoy seeing the admirable Burke style put to the test of coping with the vagaries of Eastern royal breeding, particularly the more prolific houses such as Saudi Arabia in which the 55 sons and 51 daughters of King Saud are laid before us, and Burke's states from time to time that a marriage though contracted was never consummated. Then there are lively introductory essays and portraits of some of the royal rulers (some of which severely test the reader's credulity). This is a good effort and a worthy companion to Volume I, but at times it falls needlessly short of the mark. Why is there no photograph of Emperor Bokassa? Why is the ruler of Fujairah, born in 1948, depicted as an old man with a grey beard? There is no date of birth for Princess Elizabeth of Toro and her career details are particularly sparse. And of the *Death* of a Princess lady we are told no more than: "(3) Mashael, executed for adultery at Jeddah Nov 1977".

Christopher Warwick is one of those rare authors who gets his royal facts scrupulously correct. In his book, *Two Centuries of Royal Weddings* (Arthur Barker, £5.95), he takes us behind the scenes and explains how a royal wedding is arranged. He traces the history of these weddings from 1818 to 1978, nor does he shirk the murky passages—read his for example, on the Duke of Clarence. It is particularly interesting to see the huge crowds at Princess Patricia's wedding and to wonder how many people remembered her at her death in 1974, and it is good to have a well illustrated account of Prince Michael's dramatic wedding in Vienna. Royalty love weddings almost as much as funerals, so I hope Mr Warwick will now turn his hand to royal funerals.

In *Royal Ceremonies of State* (Country Life Books, £7.50) Richmond Herald, alias John Brooke-Little, makes the important point that we have a ceremonial monarchy. He brings the ceremonies to life, explaining not only what happens but why, and he adorns them with anecdotes gleaned from his personal experience. I particularly like his image of the Knights of the Garter emerging from luncheon "in a haze of cigar smoke and general euphoria". For me this

Hugo Vickers

book gets the balance absolutely right. I also endorse his suggestion that at the next Coronation, the Sovereign should walk from Westminster Hall to the Abbey as in earlier times. But even Mr Brooke-Little makes mistakes. The Duke of Edinburgh did wear Parliamentary robes at the 1970 State Opening, the Prince of Wales did not wear Naval uniform at the Investiture, a service was held for the Royal Victorian Order at Windsor in 1978, the Earl Marshal was present when Lord Constantine took his seat in the Lords. He fails to tell us how many Earls sit in the Lords and it is King Olav (not Olave) of Norway.

An ideal book to take on a cruise is *The Royal Tour 1901* (Webb & Bower, £9.95). Already a best-seller, it is a facsimile of the lower deck account of the voyage around the British Empire by the Cornwalls, later King George V and Queen Mary. It was written and illustrated by Petty Officer Harry Price, whose varied naval career included starting a small mutiny and ending it when it got out of hand. The account is the shrewdest and more gripping than those in the official biographies and the illustrations are vivid and entertaining. Of the barbaric ducking as they crossed the line, the author tells us: "The man who attempted to remonstrate, if he opened his mouth was instantly filled with water from a large syringe deftly used by Neptune's physician".

John Calmann & Cooper did the design and production for *David Piper, Kings and Queens of England* (Faber, £5.95). It was published the day following John Calmann's murder in France. The illustrations are of a quality infinitely finer than in any of these books and are alive with the sharp and witty text of David Piper, Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. He reveals that there is a studio in Regent's Park where the State Portrait of the Queen is "duplicated by the dozen" and concise descriptions flow from his pen with relaxed and scholarly ease. Charles II's effigy is likened to "a cynical ageing Hollywood film-star". Not only scholarly, the book is also lively, informative, and amusing.

The Queen Mother's forthcoming eightieth birthday brings two publications. *The Queen Mother* (Penguin Books, £2.99) has colour pictures, many of which will be new to royalty watchers. As usual, these robes are mistaken for Garter robes and the captions do not always inspire confidence. Judging from her poppy and black coat the visit must have taken place in November. Quite so. David Sinclair's *Life of the Queen Mother* is now available in paperback, *Queen and Country* (Fontana, £1.50). It is good to see that his publishers have corrected one or two errors from the hardback edition, but they should have gone further. The Civil List figures shown are those for 1978, *Duchess of Athlone* recurs, and the footnote on Lord Mountbatten implies that he is still living. This book is suitable for those taking an early holiday before the great celebrations.

Hugo Vickers

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## VALUABLE NATO ALLY

the new Greek Minister, has called on to make a further effort about the military re- of Greece into the Alliance—something rightly says, would be rests both of Greece and the Alliance's south- nk. Greece is of course a member of Nato but return to full military p- er members of Nato that, and in fact con- fforts have been made action by the Supreme r of Allied Forces in eneral Rogers, and by cessor General Heig, in important and val- uegotiations were held eneral Haig and the of the Greek General meral Davos, who in understanding as July 1978. Nato's mmittee approved the of that understanding r 1978 and recom- at reintegration should eaving some problems out operational juris- the Aegean to be later. But at that key intervened, in- the points in ques- eared up first and to veto Greece's re- if they were not. 1979 Greece accepted of amendments to the forward by General an attempt to meet flections. But these id y the Turks, who ean Nato draw a new in May 1979 General o, but these new p- e rejected by Greece, unde that their effec- e been to place the e Greek national air ie hands of non-Greek

commanders and to deprive the Chief of the Greek Naval Staff of the operational control which he enjoyed in the Aegean (outside Turkish territorial waters) before Greece's withdrawal from the integrated military command structure in 1974. Greece also rejected a further plan put forward by General Rogers in February this year, presumably on the same grounds, reaffirming her belief that "the Davos-Haig 'agreement' provides the solution".

Although ostensibly an issue between Greece and Nato, this problem is of course very closely related to bilateral disputes between Greece and Turkey. Before 1974 Greece was responsible for both the air and sea defence of the Aegean, outside Turkish territorial waters, under the overall command of an American officer in Izmir for the air force and of "CINCSOUTH" in Naples for the navy. Since Greece's withdrawal the regional HQ in Izmir has become a purely Turkish command, and the Haig-Davos agreement therefore provided for a parallel air force HQ at Larissa under Greek command. Greece's strategic responsibility for the defence of international waters in the Aegean would thereby be confirmed.

Since these international waters are inextricably inter- laced with the territorial waters of the Greek islands, that is by far the most practicable and sensible arrangement. But unfortunately Turkey does not see it that way. She has for years been trying to establish the principle that the Aegean is half Greek and half Turkish. She has laid claim to a continental shelf up to a median line between the two mainlands and has also tried to assert control of civilian air traffic in the eastern Aegean—

ie, in the air over and around Greek islands and inside what is internationally recognized as the Athens Flight Information Region. The Greeks are understandably unhappy about all this, since apart from the inconvenience it causes it looks like preparation for a claim that the islands in the eastern Aegean, although unquestionably under Greek sovereignty and inhabited by Greeks, are not "really" Greek at all but belong to Turkey. Indeed the Turkish prime minister, Mr Demirel, once injudiciously announced that he was not going to refer to the islands as "Greek" any longer.

In February this year Turkey suddenly dropped her attempt in control civilian air traffic in the eastern Aegean as a good-will gesture, showing that she is capable of waiving her demands in the interests of common sense and mutual convenience. Since then other members of Nato have pledged thousands of millions of dollars in a variety of multilateral loans to refloat the Turkish economy. The least that Turkey now owes us, and herself, is to facilitate the reintegration of Greece into Nato on terms that safeguard Greek independence and self-respect without in any way infringing Turkish sovereignty. The transition from Mr Karanmanlis to Mr Rallis has so far gone remarkably smoothly, but Greek public opinion remains very sensitive to what it sees as western appeasement of Turkey, both on the Aegean and on Cyprus. There is a real possibility—though not as yet a probability—that Mr Papandreu's anti-Nato PASOK party might emerge as the strongest in next year's Greek elections. We ought to get Greece properly back in Nato while we still can.

## LURE OF THE TUC

ment of Mr David Hunterston ore terminal, Freight- lizer depots or demarcations in shiobuilding, the TUC can do little more than urge the contestants to find their own solution. Since the essence of trade union power lies in preventing things from happening, not in making them happen, the system is thus powerfully weighted in favour of the status quo. The harmful effects of this on productivity and adaptability in British industry can scarcely be exaggerated.

But at the Isle of Grain the status quo has not won—or at least it has not won this round. The power station project is already four years behind schedule, largely because of repeated disputes over bonus rates. The laggards, a small group of relatively unskilled workers who have contrived to exact higher bonus rates than any other group, have refused to work on the site for the last nine months. The Central Electricity Generating Board, seeing no prospect of getting the station finished otherwise, announced that it would abandon the attempt unless the workforce accepted workers newly trained as laggards, but paid at more normal rates. The other workers, members of seven different unions, did accept, and this week crossed violent and intimidatory picket lines to return to work. They were prepared to make their own judgment of the

merits of the case—a judgment which can easily be justified on better grounds than narrow self-interest—and let it override blind obedience to the plea of solidarity.

It would be wrong to put too much weight on a single incident. The laggards have exploited the loyalty of their fellow workers exceptionally hard. If they had been thought to have had a fair case, the outcome would have been different. But it is possible to set the incident beside similar indications from British Leyland, British Steel and elsewhere, as hints that workers can be wiser than their union leaders about their interests and those of the industry they work for.

The affair reinforces the need—made obvious by many other instances—for clear and stable arrangements for pay relativities in major building projects where many different categories of workers are employed side by side by a number of contractors. The Isle of Grain is exceptional in an important respect: the price of oil has risen so far since it was planned, and demand for electricity so little, that when the CEBG talked of abandoning it, it was clear that they meant it. When construction starts on the proposed series of nuclear power stations, that will not be so. An effective national site agreement is essential if they are not to suffer the same frustrations as the Isle of Grain.

## RICHARDSON'S CASE FOR PAROLE

Richardson's recent cannot have improved as of being released on the near future, even that he surrenders ever deeply he may, the need to make a statement of his frustra- ambitions—which he done with considerable in his letter to The cannot expect that e from prison can be anything other than a arding the date of his release. It cannot be a prisoner should, by away, gain earlier an he would otherwise granted. If he were e benefiting from his it would, moreover, o other prisoners that to early parole was escape and publicity, invitation would not be acceptances. Whatever s and wrongs of Mr n's complaints, his should not be seen to his achieving his aim, said, however, Mr n's letter raises a num- portant issues, some of beyond his own case:

the effect of long-term imprisonment, the dilemma posed by a prisoner who claims—and appears to some other observers—to have undergone a genuine reformation, and the degree to which horrific crimes committed nearly 15 years ago, and the public revulsion felt at the time (and, to some extent, still in evidence today), should be taken into account when deciding on parole.

Mr Richardson seems to have many points in favour of his being granted parole. But his argument that he has served longer in prison than many murderers, though true, is not persuasive. In some ways Mr Richardson's activities, including what it is no exaggeration to describe as sadistic torture, carried out systematically over a period of years, were more heinous than murder. Most murders are carried out by people who are not violently criminal by nature or back- ground, who find themselves reacting violently to particular extreme circumstances, and who are extremely unlikely to repeat their crime on release.

We know Mr Richardson's version of his present feelings and circumstances, and there is much

in it to evoke sympathy and understanding. We do not know the reasons for the Parole Board having consistently refused to grant him release on parole. Mr Richardson's brother suggests that it is lack of courage on the part of members of the Board unwilling to face up to the publicity which would attend Mr Richardson's release into society. It may be that the Board is being unduly conservative and is unwilling to take any risks whatever. That would be understandable, especially as any adverse consequences of releasing someone of Mr Richardson's notoriety would undoubtedly make it more difficult for the Board to make appropriate recommendations for thousands of other prisoners. It is also possible—perhaps probable—that the Parole Board had access to information which is not available to us, or to Lord Longford. The Board, rightly, does not publish its reasons or divulge confidences. Any Parole Board will make errors of judgment, releasing those who commit further violent crimes, or continuing to detain those who would not be a further danger. But if there is to be a Parole Board at all its discretion must be trusted.

## nent in Pakistan

Herbert Thompson has May 20) that Pakistan has long been a part of the British Empire, a tradition by the British. Pre- has in mind the section Dyer after the notorious Amritsar. But that estab- radition.

Only six years later when I was City Magistrate, Peshawar, a Hindu lawyer, defending a young Pathan, charged with stabbing, asked me to accept a somewhat irregular plea to the effect that his client would plead guilty if I would agree not to put him in jail, but have him cased in court as was permitted under Fair Act. This could be arranged as a matter of "school discipline". Such stabbing had become

fashionable on lines similar to the vandalism of today in this country. I acted accordingly. Would that similar treatment could be adopted in this country. It worked in the North-west Frontier Province of those days. Yours faithfully, HERBERT THOMPSON, Fair Act, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. May 22.

## Control of union secondary action

From the Director General of the Institute of Directors  
Sir, Mr Alan Campbell, QC, is per- sistent in his comments in your columns today (May 27) upon the repercussive effects of secondary industrial action.  
The licence for secondary action conferred by the present clause 16 of the Employment Bill suffers from an inherent vice namely that once secondary action is granted statutory legitimacy it is almost impossible similarly to confine the scope of its effects.  
The intricate but one suspects, hasty draftsmanship of clause 16 does attempt to deal with the problem by reference to a "direct" prevention or disruption of the supply of goods or services. It fails, however, to solve the difficulty that once secondary action interrupts the flow of goods between one employer and another, any third party's goods caught in the system are also, in effect, "black".

Yet it is not simply flawed draftsmanship which concerns this Insti- tute about the Employment Bill as it approaches committee stage in the House of Lords.  
More disturbing is its underlying assumption that strikes, blocking and other disruptive industrial action are to be reckoned a long- term feature of our industrial environment.

I am anxious that the specific legislative proposals of the Insti- tute of Directors, which you report today: the availability of secret ballots to union members; the financial responsibility of trades unions for acts perpetrated on their behalf; the possibility of legally binding agreements between employers and trades unions, should be seen in context.

This is that industrial relations policies should be tailored to higher productivity rather than simple industrial peace.  
Legislation can clear road-blocks to productivity; it cannot provide a solution in itself. The driving force must come from more effective and professional leadership and direction in industry together with a more determined attempt to fashion consultative and information systems to the requirements of a particular workforce.

It has never been more important that directors and managers in British industry equip themselves to step into the communication-gap which has opened up between workers with an eye on the future and trades union leaders resolutely confronting the past.  
Yours truly,  
WALTER GOLDSMITH,  
Institute of Directors,  
116 Pall Mall, SW1.  
May 27.

## Nuclear proliferation

From Mr Hugh Manning  
Sir, One of the best comments on your valuable nuclear debate came yesterday (May 22) from a "mere" Wing Commander Michael Watkins, in a letter reporting the brilliant and quite dangerous RAF airlift of supplies to beleaguered villages in Nepal.  
As Jonathan Alford points out (May 23) you cannot have every- thing. This is a truism for which little advance has been made in the past in the Ministry of Defence. In the words of a former Defence Minister, the machinery for making the very big defence decisions is "not very sophisticated". Your columns helpfully present us with the important conflict of priorities in relation to a very big decision.

Thus, during the nuclear debate, let us not lose sight of the things which Britain's armed forces do better than those of any other country. The little advance has been made in the past in the Ministry of Defence. In the words of a former Defence Minister, the machinery for making the very big defence decisions is "not very sophisticated". Your columns helpfully present us with the important conflict of priorities in relation to a very big decision.

Our allies in Nato, particularly when attention is being focused on the Indian Ocean, would undoubtedly value most from us as expanded British mission in this field. I personally agree with your eminent contributors that we should keep the nuclear weapon. But let us relate the cost of it to the continued exercise of talent which Britain's allies recognize as pretty well unique.  
Yours, etc,  
HUGH MANNING,  
UK Director,  
International Peace Academy,  
18 Montpelier Row, SE3.  
May 23.

## Arrests of churchmen

From Canon Michael Mayne and others  
Sir, We hope that the South African Ambassador to Britain, himself a churchman (a predikant in the Dutch Reformed Church), will welcome the stand taken in Johannesburg by his brothers in Christ in their demonstration against the detention of another churchman, the Reverend John Thorne, for protesting against the inferior standard of "Coloured" education.  
We have been surprised to learn that leaders and representatives of many Christian churches, taking part in a peaceful demonstration, were arrested by riot police armed with automatic rifles and with tear-gas masks, and that they were then charged and remanded under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

We hope that the Ambassador will make representations to his government on behalf of these churchmen.  
Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL MAYNE, Vicar,  
GEORGE BAKER, Curate,  
KATHY JUDSLEY, Curate,  
Great St Mary's,  
The University Church,  
Cambridge.  
May 28.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Closing ranks against inflation

From Mr R. C. Wilson  
Sir, Professor Lydall's letter of May 15 reminds me that some years ago Sir Keith Joseph quoted Lenin who, he said, recommended inflation as "the arch-destroyer of bourgeois democracy". There is a militant and vocal minority in this country who are dedicated to this end. They have a vested interest in an accelerated rate of inflation, and the cash limits as applied in recent public sector wage settlements.

It would seem essential, therefore, that they should modify their policy by imposing a wages and incomes policy on the public sector. If this is not done, we face the frightening prospect of economic stagnation and unemployment, with no real benefit in terms of reduced inflation. The economic consequences of this will be disastrous to the fortunes of the Conservative Party.  
Yours faithfully,  
J. R. V. COULTS,  
Meadfield House,  
Vicarage Road,  
Walsley,  
Bedfordshire.  
May 19.

From Lord Taylor  
Sir, Five years ago in your columns (April 14, 1975) I described the "Rule of Seven" as a means of containing incomes without a statutory policy. Briefly, the rule states that for industrial peace within any organization, the wage and salary span pre-tax between the lowest paid operative and the highest paid director must never exceed one to seven. Without this rule, there can be no wage containment, and any leads on inevitably to strikes and inflation.

Apply this to the NHS. If a top consultant with a top merit award gets £21,000, then the lowest-paid cleaner must get £3,000 (instead of £2,700 at present), with everyone else paid pro rata. Negotiations on behalf of everyone else then simply become a matter of fair placement within the span.  
Apply this to the Civil Service. If the pay at the top is £24,000, the lowest-paid cleaner must get £3,430.  
I doubt if any man really needs an income of £12 or 20 or 50 times that of his lowest employees as a condition of undertaking the responsibilities of top management. If the Rule of Seven is honestly applied, the great majority of people will accept the result as reasonably fair.  
Yours faithfully,  
RAYMOND C. WILSON,  
20 St John's Hill,  
Bath,  
Avon.  
May 18.

### A Strauss profile

From Mr Brian Crozier  
Sir, Was the BBC Panorama programme on Strauss (May 12) the worst of its kind? One hesitates to affirm it, since there is so much competition, but it does seem to qualify for short-listing. Please allow me to offer some specific comments:

1. The reporter-producer (a Mr Tom Bower) made no attempt to examine Strauss's ideas, or what he stands for. Most of the programme consisted of raking over the muck of past smear campaigns (some attention to the notorious "Strauss affair" was no doubt justified: it is a question of proportion).  
2. The presentation was heavily weighted in favour of the smearers. For example, much time was given to one of Strauss's most persistent detractors, Baron Englemann; but no attempt was made to look at the credentials of the organization on behalf of which Englemann has claimed that he acts, the "Adventures in Democracy" Initiative Press Service, which was indeed not mentioned.  
3. Time was also given to a former member of Strauss's staff named Huber, who defected some months ago, taking confidential documents with him and passing them to Spiegel, the most systematically anti-Strauss publication in the Federal Republic. Huber's testimony is similar in kind and value to that of, say, Philip Agee, a better known defector.  
4. Much time went in consideration of the notorious "Spiegel affair" of 1962. One would have thought that the views of the then leader of the Liberal party (FDP), Erich Mende, would have been sought, since it was he who, by threatening to withdraw from the Adenauer coalition, forced Strauss to resign as Defence Minister. Mende publicly made amends last December for his stand in 1962, declaring that he considered Strauss fully vindicated, and that the "Spiegel scandal" should be regarded as a closed chapter. We found that Mr Bower did not interview him?

5. Similarly, no attempt was made to interview an opponent of Strauss, the author Hans Helmut Kirat, who knew Strauss during the war and was fair enough to recognize that Strauss took a clear and Nazi line at the risk of his life. He was also a member of the fact that Strauss's foreign friends include two ex-ministers of General Franco, Silva Muñoz and Fernández de la Mora. This was held to show Strauss's predilection for groups of the enemy race. The average television viewer could not, perhaps, be expected to know that the present Spanish Prime Minister, Sr Suárez, was also one of Franco's ex-ministers. For that matter, neither Silva Muñoz nor Fernández de la Mora is a conspicuously successful or "technocratic" minister of public works and the latter is a brilliant political theorist.  
Yours very truly,  
BRIAN CROZIER,  
112 Bridge Lane,  
Surrey, Surrey, NW11.  
May 13.

Dissident movements throughout the world would bear witness to that if they were able to, as would Amnesty International, which was launched in The Observer.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, The Observer is a newspaper which published George Orwell, Arthur Koestler and Edward Crankshaw, which first revealed Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin, which first published The Gulag Archipelago, and has just serialized "Solzhenitsyn's" latest account of his sufferings under Soviet tyranny. If any of our readers are still starry-eyed about Soviet communism, I doubt it is despite, rather than because of, what they have been reading in The Observer.

Yours faithfully,  
DONALD TRELFOED,  
Editor,  
The Observer,  
8 St Andrew's Hill, EC4.  
May 28.

### ACAS Report

From the Chairman of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service  
Sir, I was concerned to see in your paper today (May 28) views attributed to me which I did not express. At the press conference about the ACAS annual report I did not blame government economic strategy for the increase in industrial disputes. My statement was: "Industrial relations are seriously influenced by the economic environment." This is the factual position we all have to face.  
I made it clear at my press conference that it was not for ACAS to comment on the economic policy of this government or the previous government. The twelve-month period covered by the ACAS annual report to which my statement related in fact covers both Labour and Conservative administrations.  
Yours faithfully,  
J. E. MORTIMER, Chairman,  
Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service,  
Cleveland House,  
Page Street, SW1.

### Rehabilitation of prisoners

From Lord Longford  
Sir, You correctly, if modestly, refer to Mr Charles Richardson's letter today (May 29) as "a pertinent document for readers interested in the rehabilitation of prisoners". Surely it is the most important document that ever emanated from a prisoner while still in prison. It is a sad and ordinary communication with the public, direct, except by absconding. Naturally any friend of his, like his family, must hope that he will return to prison as soon as possible. But meanwhile he has focused attention on more than one deplorable feature of our present parole system.

I myself have visited Charles Richardson on a number of occasions in various prisons and camps. I know more than one member of his family. While he was at Meaford I became well aware of the contribution he was making to the life of the prison. The prison news paper Inside Out which was an exceptional quality news paper dealt with his institution. Without incriminating individuals, I can testify that it was generally assumed that he would receive parole in the near future, and certainly deserved it. Some mysterious force in the Home Office was understood to be retaining him in prison.

"What have the Home Office not done for Charles?" was the question put to me more than once. I had in mind that I was repeatedly not in their confidence. But in the House of Lords I offered, on one occasion, the view which I now hold. That it was not a moral conviction which prevented his obtaining parole.

Mr Edward Richardson, his brother, is quoted in your columns as saying: "If the members of the House of Lords do not have the moral courage to release someone because it may create some publicity, then they should not be on the Board." I share that opinion. But I would carry the blame further and place it on the shoulders of the Home Office. In the case of a small number of prisoners, I have always found that the Parole Board acts in a manner expected of them in the Home Office and the Home Office in the manner which they think will cause least embarrassment to Ministers.  
Charles Richardson did terrible things in the past, but the wrong course is in his past. His family is paralysed by the conviction of many others who have come to know him in recent years, that the time has come when he should be allowed to make the worth while contribution to the community of which we feel sure he is capable. Yours sincerely,  
LORD LONGFORD,  
17, Grosvenor Gardens,  
London, W1.  
May 29.

### Drop in farm incomes

From Miss Elizabeth Creak  
Sir, I note that doctors are having a wage rise of 31 per cent.  
Farmers who have incomes of petrol, wages, rates, feed, seed, fertilizer, etc. all of which have risen 50 per cent, are getting an increase in their net output costs of around 5 per cent if they are lucky, and farm incomes are being reduced by 50 per cent.

Are we to conclude that when farmers fall ill through worry, melancholia or nervousness, the doctor will be ready to healish more important than food?  
Yours truly,  
ELIZABETH CREAK,  
Harrow Road,  
Stratford-upon-Avon.  
May 22.

### Ranks of gallantry

From Miss Jo Thorpe  
Sir, I have read recently in our local press a report that London that four members of the crew of the Royal Air Force helicopter which saved 35 people in the oil rig disaster, are to receive awards for gallantry.  
The report states that Flight Sergeant Mike Yorwood will receive the Air Force Medal and that Flight Lieutenant Neville will receive the Air Force Cross.

It amazes me that the old custom of differentiation in the names of awards conferred on non-commissioned persons and officers still persists.  
As a South African who has striven for a long time to eliminate discrimination I am disappointed to find that Britain continues to practice this subtle form of discrimination, particularly where life and death is involved.  
Yours sincerely,  
JO THORPE,  
184 Currie Road,  
Durban,  
South Africa.  
May 22.

### Cut to the quick

From Dr Andrew Verney  
Sir, The Flowers Report proposals on medical education in London must be harsh. The amalgamation of medical schools, big and better units will be created with more comprehensive facilities. Before this idea is allowed to go to seed let us crisply apply the same arguments to Oxford. Merleton may merge with Martin, Christchurch with Oriel, Wadham with New College and Hertford with Exeter and Lincoln. Sir John with Keble—also embracing Rhodes House, etc.

In the confusion it will become obvious there is no suitable compensation for Balliol, and it can be closed. If Mr Macmillan, Mr Her- Mc-Graw and Mr Jenkins, Sir Reilly or el d'Angela, their objections may be dismissed as "tribal loyalties". I'm sure Lord Longford would quickly appreciate the logic of a similar scheme for Cambridge. Yours truly,  
ANDREW VERNEY,  
23 Nicolson Road, SW18.  
May 28.

### Walsingham pilgrimage

From Mr A. C. Fraser  
Sir, John Foxe records that Alis- reder, Cosmore of Brightwell Baldwin was in trouble with the Church authorities in 1520 for declining to make a pilgrimage to Walsingham, saying, "That when women go to offer to images or saints, they do it to show their new gay gear; that images were but carpenter's chips; and that folks go on pilgrimage more for the green way, than for any devotion."  
How interested she would have been to see your photograph of the protesters facing the robed Archbishop and Bishops.  
Yours faithfully,  
A. C. FRASER,  
The Orchard,  
Upperton,  
Brightwell Baldwin,  
Wallingford,  
Oxfordshire.  
May 28.





## COURT CIRCULAR

### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 29: The Queen arrived at Heathrow Airport—London this afternoon in a Royal Australian Air Force Boeing 707 aircraft from Australia.

The Prince of Wales, as President, attended the Annual General Meeting of the Wildflower Trust at Arundel, West Sussex today.

Mr Oliver Everett was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, as President, was present this evening at a Dinner and Cabaret in aid of the Welsh Environment Foundation which was held at the Birmingham Metropolitan Hotel.

The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon. Edward Adams, travelled in the Royal Train.

CLARENCE HOUSE

May 29: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Counsellor of State, under Her Majesty's Commission, held Council on behalf of the Queen at 11 o'clock this morning.

There were present: Lord Sorensen (Lord President), the Right Hon Patrick Jenkin, MP (Secretary of State for Social Services), and the Right Hon Geoffrey Howe, MP (Chancellor of the Exchequer).

Mr Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council. Lord Sorensen had an audience of the Counsellors of State before the Council.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning received the Presidents and Members of the Council of State of the European Community.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 29: Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited

the Royal Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show at Shepton Mallet.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Elizabeth Paget and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 29: The Duke of Gloucester visited the English Clay Lovers' Pochin and Co Ltd Apprentice Training School, Drinkwater and was entertained by Mr John Carey-Pole, Patron of the Association of Cornish Boys' Clubs. His Royal Highness visited clubs in Maker and Ram and Salish in the afternoon.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

Duke and Duchess of Gloucester this evening were present at the Commemorative Feast of the Worshipful Company of Grocers' at Grocers' Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland and Mrs Euan McCordale were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

St James's Palace

May 29: The Duchess of Kent, Honorary Colonel of the Yorkshire Volunteers, this morning received Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Lewis on relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, and Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. McCloy on assuming this appointment.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

May 29: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at a Gala Ball under the patronage of Madame Valery Escart d'Essaing in aid of the Centre Charles Péguy (the International Youth Club sponsored by the French Community in London) at the Residence of His Excellency the French Ambassador, Kensington Palace Gardens.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

There will be a service of thanksgiving for the life of Brigadier Sir Christopher Peto on June 6, at 11.30 am at St Leonard's Church, Cliddeeden, near Basingstoke.

Latest wills

Mr Rowland Smith, of Kingsweir, Devon, company £3,545,636 net. Other estates include (net, before tax paid): tax not disclosed.

Boulton, Miss Pamela Edwards, of West Kirby, Merseyside, £242,281. Carter, Mr Arthur Herbert, of Tydd St Giles, Cambridgeshire, £23,649.

Elworthy, Mr William James, of Winkfield, Devon, £235,749. Hargrave, Mr Sidel Adel Shaker, of Clentworth Street, London, N.W.1, estate in England and Wales £74,439.

## SIR MICHAEL TIPPETT



This distinguished British composer writes:

"One of the glories of music is that it is an art of observation. The composer is silent while the performer, so much more numerous, so much more public, who is perhaps most at hazard: less of voice, injury to hand or lip, failure of ear or eye."

If you have loved music, then please send that love by giving to the Musicians Benevolent Fund. They will know where and how to care for your help.

Please send a donation, large or small, it will help to maintain our three homes of residence for elderly and retired musicians and will give comfort to many who long for your support.

Philip Crammer, Chairman, MUSICIANS' BENEVOLENT FUND, 16, Oyle Street, London, W1P 7LG.

Crockett & Jones

A Long Tradition of Fine Footwear

LUDGATE—All Leather—Full Brogue—In Black Gilt—About £47.95

For further information contact: CROCKETT & JONES LTD, Perry Street, Northampton, Telephone: 0604-31515/6/7

Marriages

Mr W. A. Beare and Mrs A. Moon. The marriage took place on May 22 in Perth between Mr William Beare, of St Margaret's Bay, and Mrs A. Moon, of Balmorie, Carling.

Mr J. B. Lewis and Miss F. S. Nickson. The marriage took place on Saturday, May 24, at St Mary's, Aberystwyth, between Mr James Blount Lewis, of St Mary's, and Miss Felicity Sarah Nickson, of St Mary's.

The Bishop of St Andrews, Dundee and Dunblane, officiated and the Rev John Crook and Dom Francis also took part in the service. The bride was attended by Miss Emma and Miss Lucy and Miss Rosie Nickson. Mr Thomas Buchanan was best man.

Mr D. W. Preston and Mrs B. Robinson. The marriage took place quietly in London on May 28, between Mr Desmond Preston and Mrs Helen Robinson.

Birthdays today

Professor W. H. F. Barnes, 71; Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Cameron, 82; Mr W. P. Cleland, 68; Mr Ray Cooney, 48; Mr R. E. Engham, 80; Lord Gardiner, 80; Mr John Gilroy, 82; Mr Marshall Sir Reginald Harland, 80.

Dinners

Dr A. Glyn, MP. Dr A. Glyn, MP, was host to International Management sales executives at dinner at the House of Commons on Wednesday.

The guests included Mr G. Simpson, executive vice-president of McGraw-Hill Publications Company.

UCS Old Boys (Old Gowers). The annual dinner of the UCS Old Boys (Old Gowers) Club was held last night at University College School, Hammersmith, London.

Black-Hawkins, president, was the chair and the guest of honour was Mr Eric Beverley, Mr Alan Barker, Headmaster of University College School, was also present.

Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron. RAF officers and students of Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron held their annual dinner in the Masonic Temple, Manchester, last night.

Squadron-Leader E. C. R. Dicks presided. The guest of honour was Mr Marshall J. B. Curtis, Air Officer Commanding No 18 Group, and the principal speaker was Professor J. H. Horlock, Vice-Chancellor Salford University.

Tratragar Centenary. To mark the centenary of the first meeting of the Association of Registered Medical Women of the United Kingdom in May, 1860, the London Association of the Medical Women's Federation held a dinner at the Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich, yesterday. The guest

Lecture

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Mr Michael Young, was host yesterday evening when the Wellcome centenary lecture was given by Mr Paul B. Capstick and Mr Gilbert Macdonald. Among the guests were:

Professor E. C. Amoroso, Mr D. Godfrey, Mr William Henderson, Mr S. L. Henson, Mr A. H. Jones, and Professor R. M. S. Thompson.

Pratt's Company. The annual dinner of Pratt's Company was held yesterday at Vintners' Hall. The Master, Mr F. J. E. Bracken, presided. The guest of honour was Mr J. H. Horlock, Vice-Chancellor of Salford University.

Reception

Royal Overseas League. A thanksgiving service to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the Royal Overseas League was held in the Chapel of the Order of St Paul's Cathedral yesterday.

The service was held in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral yesterday. A reception was given later at Overseas House by Lord Grey of Naunton, chairman of the central council.

Ball

Royal Television Society. Sir Row Wheldon, President of the Royal Television Society, presented the awards at a ball held at Grosvenor House, London, last night. The ball was held in aid of the Royal Television Society.

Science report

Microbiology: Pili and vaccination

By the Staff of Nature

Long neglected hair outgrowths on the surface of certain bacteria now seem to offer hope in the quest for vaccines against some diseases difficult to treat. The outgrowths, which are usually called, are responsible for attaching the bacteria to their animal hosts and by upsetting that function scientists hope to prevent diseases.

Pili were discovered many years ago, but they have a tendency to disappear when bacteria are grown in the laboratory and they were not rediscovered until the 1950s. It was almost another twenty years before their significance in disease was realized.

Veterinary scientists found that strains of the gut bacterium, Escherichia coli, were not virulent unless they possessed a certain factor, named K88 antigen. K88 turned out to be attached to the pili, and a strain of E. coli found in virulent E. coli infecting calves and lambs.

Further investigation has shown

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. H. Bertie and Miss N. E. Pritchard-Davies. The engagement is announced between Mr J. H. Bertie, second son of Mr and Mrs L. H. Bertie, of Kent, and Miss N. E. Pritchard-Davies, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. R. Pritchard-Davies, of Oxfordshire.

Mr D. E. Biggs and Miss D. A. Greenwood. The engagement is announced between Mr D. E. Biggs, second son of Mr and Mrs L. H. Bertie, of Kent, and Miss D. A. Greenwood, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. H. Bertie, of Kent.

Mr J. J. Breen and Miss V. A. Pritchard-Davies. The engagement is announced between Mr J. J. Breen, second son of Mr and Mrs L. H. Bertie, of Kent, and Miss V. A. Pritchard-Davies, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. R. Pritchard-Davies, of Oxfordshire.

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The newly discovered Constable, "Brightwell Church and Village", which will be exhibited at Covent Garden Gallery next month.

## Constable that two auctioneers failed to spot

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's and Bonham's, the two London auctioneers, were embarrassed yesterday as the full story emerged of how the newly discovered Constable masterpiece, "Brightwell Church and Village", slipped through their hands.

It was sold by Bonham's in June, 1974, for the princely sum of £25,000. The client to Bonham's, they would have received 9p in introductory commission. Now that the painting is properly identified its value is about £50,000 to £100,000.

The story of its discovery is full of strange chances. It belonged, no one knows for long, but at least since 1915, to the Lewis May family of Colchester. They were passed by mistake to another notable East Anglian family, the Alexanders.

The Alexanders were the Constable family's bankers in the early nineteenth century and the painting may well have been acquired by the family at that time. In 1977 Mr C. Lewis said called in Sotheby's to sell the painting.

When they had taken their pick Sotheby's suggested that the rest could be sent to Bonham's for sale.

Six months later a carrier picked up a load and took it to Bonham's secondary sale room in Lons Road for auction. Among the unsold lots was the Constable. It was bought by Mr Nicholas Drummond, a dealer, at a pretty little price. Some months later he sold it to his brother, William Drummond, who runs the Covent Garden Gallery.

A search of Constable's published correspondence revealed two allusions to view of Brightwell painted on commission in 1815. The picture had since been "lost". All the descriptions tallied precisely with the little painting in possession and the opinions of Constable scholars confirmed the attribution.

The picture was exhibited at the Covent Garden Gallery on June 12. Mr Drummond is in no hurry to sell it but expects to do so when he finds the right client.

Record £25,000 paid for 'horse' netsuke by master

By Our Sale Room Correspondent

The auction record price of £25,000 was bid for a netsuke, the little carved toggle or button used by the Japanese to secure a Society's which totalled £118,000.

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BUSINESS NEWSHow big is the  
black  
economy?  
page 21markets  
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to 67.87 down 0.16RG  
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74.4 down 0.3F  
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## BRIEF

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August, with a loss

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New York Stock Ex-

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L. Against the S&amp;P

500 at 13512 and

at 559506.

Manufacturing  
industry may cut  
investment by  
up to 12 per centBy Caroline Atkinson  
Manufacturing industry  
expects to cut its investment by  
between 8 and 12 per cent this  
year—a fall of the same order  
is also expected in 1981.Industrialists' pessimism has  
increased over the prospects for  
both output and inflation,  
according to the latest invest-  
ment intentions survey by the  
Department of Trade. This  
shows that manufacturers have  
revised downwards their invest-  
ment plans for this year and  
next by about 2 per cent in  
volume terms.The last survey of investment  
intentions predicted a drop in  
manufacturers' investment of  
about 6 to 10 per cent this year.  
The news is further evidence  
of the industrial recession in  
Britain. Earlier this week the  
Confederation of British Indus-  
try warned of a difficult time  
ahead for companies on the  
basis of their latest industrial  
survey.Manufacturers hit by high  
wage costs, high interest rates  
and an extremely uncompeti-  
tive exchange rate, have begun  
to lay off workers and to cut  
back on stocks and investment.  
A drop of 8 to 12 per cent  
in the volume of manufacturing  
investment would be the largest  
since 1972, when the cutback  
was more than 13 per cent.If the survey's pessimistic  
view of 1980 and 1981 proves  
correct, then the volume of  
manufacturing investment  
would by next year be back  
to the levels of the early  
1960s.Total private sector invest-  
ment is expected to be much  
less badly hit by the recession.  
The survey suggested a 3 per  
cent fall this year in the overall  
rise in the volume of invest-  
ment. The previous survey pub-  
lished in early January pre-  
dicted a 2 per cent overall fall.  
The distributive and service  
industries expect to keep on  
investing this year, with a rise  
of not more than 5 per cent  
in the volume of their invest-  
ment compared with 1979.Fed vice-chairman  
rejects gold standardFrom Frank Vogl  
U.S. Economics Correspondent,  
Washington, May 29The United States Federal  
Reserve Board is not easing its  
monetary policies. It is deter-  
mined to secure a stable dollar  
and will take whatever action  
necessary to achieve this  
goal, according to Mr. Frederic  
Schultz, the Fed's vice-chair-  
man.In an unusually blunt state-  
ment for a Fed governor on  
foreign exchange issues, the  
vice-chairman said that restora-  
tion of a gold standard would  
produce serious problems.  
He said there were  
reasons to be optimistic about  
the outlook for the dollar in  
the markets, and for the Ameri-  
can balance of payments on  
current account.Mr. Schultz said: "If there  
are short run periods when the  
dollar moves so far as to be  
clearly out of line with econo-  
mic fundamentals, we will deal  
with this by intervening in the  
exchange markets to the appro-  
priate extent."His remarks were made in a  
speech at a conference in Ber-  
muda, the text of which has  
now been released. With the  
dollar facing floating market pres-  
sures and interest rates falling,  
the address must be viewed as  
being directed primarily at the  
markets.Mr. Schultz argued that the  
markets had realized that the  
interest rate falls were the result  
of a sharp decline in United  
States economic activity and  
"did not signify a relaxation of  
monetary policy." He added  
that the Fed had been following  
"a firm antiinflation course"  
and was determined to perse-  
vere.As for the outlook for the  
dollar, we can be reasonablyBusinessmen have become  
increasingly concerned about  
the impact of a recession on  
Britain's industrial base. The  
economic review of the  
National Institute of Economic  
and Social Research, published  
on Tuesday, pointed out that  
the economy could suffer for  
years because of investment  
cutbacks.If industry does not invest,  
its capacity to produce effi-  
ciently and to employ workers  
will be impaired. An invest-  
ment slump in this recession  
will reduce the productive  
potential of the British econ-  
omy in later years.The Government's economic  
strategy relies on a squeeze on  
industry leading to lower pay  
demands and lower inflation.  
The Treasury's own forecast  
assumes a sharp drop in output  
this year and a further drop  
in 1981. The fact that wages  
have so far failed to respond  
to the treatment has meant  
that industrial profits and com-  
panies' cash flows have been  
taking even more strain.Britain is also hit by the  
slowdown in the world econ-  
omy. An inevitable conse-  
quence is that industry should  
begin to cut back now on its  
spending both on stocks and  
non fixed investment.A factor distorting invest-  
ment figures over recent years  
is that some manufacturers  
have switched to leasing capi-  
tal assets rather than buying  
them outright. This has depres-  
sed the figures for manufactur-  
ing investment and raised those  
for other sectors. The peak for  
manufacturing investment was  
in 1970, whereas total invest-  
ment was at record level last  
year.There seems to be greater  
uncertainty about the prospects  
for inflation than four months  
ago. The manufacturers re-  
sponding to the department's  
latest survey all expected the  
prices of capital goods to rise  
faster than previously, but  
there was less agreement  
about the size of the likely  
rise.optimistic," he said, since  
American inflation is set to de-  
cline during the next year and  
because of payments develop-  
ment.He added that the sharp oil  
price rises would not cause  
United States current account  
into deficit this year, but the  
account "should improve sig-  
nificantly in 1981." The current  
accounts of both West Germany  
and Japan should remain in  
substantial deficits for 1980-81.Mr. Schultz said that increased  
public awareness of currency  
matters had once more raised  
the question of the restoration  
of a gold standard. But a major  
problem would centre on estab-  
lishing an initial gold price—  
one set too high could stimulate  
inflation, while one set too low  
could mean a drastic defla-  
tion/depression.He argued there would be a  
problem of maintaining an ap-  
propriate gold price. Those who  
supported the gold standard  
idea did so with the ultimate  
aim of ending inflation, he  
pointed out, and this could be  
better attained by existing in-  
stitutions.The system of managed cur-  
rency floating had worked well,  
but Mr. Schultz stressed that  
more had to be done on fiscal  
policy to fight inflation, raise  
current account stability. To some  
extent he thought it valid to  
view market pressure on the  
dollar as reflecting a decline in  
public confidence in United  
States antiinflation policy.During the first four months  
of this year the Japanese won  
just under 10 per cent of new

wells in the United States.

Some of the American wells  
are producing as little as eight  
barrels a day and at a profit.Carless, which released  
brief details of the results  
than did Candel, remained  
cautious about prospects. "Pro-  
duction testing and detailed  
consideration of the informa-  
tion gained from some time to  
evaluate before a decision as to  
the location of another well on  
this structure can be made",  
the company said.The discovery lies some 60  
miles from the Wyth Farm  
field of British Petroleum and  
British Gas in Dorset. This  
could be producing at a rate  
of 20,000 barrels a day.BP also confirmed earlier  
this month that it had dis-  
covered "small indications of  
hydrocarbons" beneath the  
producing reservoir at its Kim-  
meridge field in Dorset.Further indications of what  
might lie in the area between  
the Dorset finds and that at  
Humbly Grove may be provided  
by exploration drilling due to  
start soon in Wiltshire, not far  
from Yarnbury Castle. This, too,is being carried out by Carless,  
a subsidiary of Carless-Cappel  
and Leonard.Each increase in oil prices  
makes onshore exploration and  
production more attractive.  
Moreover, land wells are  
cheaper (about £300,000 against  
several million pounds) and  
quicker to drill than those off-The first significant onshore  
oil finds were made in Britain  
shortly before the Second World  
War. Since then about 23 mil-  
lion barrels have been pro-  
duced.Despite a small flurry of ac-  
tivity after the discovery of  
Wyth Farm in 1974, few wells  
have been drilled. Only two  
were sunk in 1977, 10 in 1978  
and four last year.Analysts Wood, Mackenzie ex-  
pect a total of 17 wells to be  
drilled over the next two years.  
Shell has a rig operating in  
Saffordshire, and Taylor Wood-  
row, as operator for a consor-  
tium active in Yorkshire, re-  
cently began an exploration well  
five miles west of Scarborough.

John Huxley

Cool reaction from bankers to proposal of private businesses contributing to fund  
Minister urges £500m City-financed arts trustBy Roman Eisenstein  
Banking CorrespondentMr Norman St John-Stevens,  
Minister for the Arts, wants  
private business to contribute  
£500m to a trust fund for the  
arts. He hopes clearing banks  
and other City institutions will  
provide the bulk of the money.Mr St John-Stevens has writ-  
ten to chairmen of clearing  
banks and has had meetings  
with three of them, outlining  
his ideas which have yet to  
take concrete shape. The  
bankers appear cool to the idea  
of a trust fund.Officially they take the view  
that this is not the sort of  
thing they should do jointly.  
They have told the Minister  
that each bank has its own  
preferences and each would  
like to help the arts in its own  
way.As one senior banker said:  
"We all undertake our own  
sponsorships and in each case  
our preferences show through."  
Another echoed: "Each bank  
individually decides the best  
way to help arts." A more  
robust response came from onewho said: "No way could we  
contemplate that sort of figure.  
It's a lot of money."The Committee of London  
Clearing Banks, which is pre-  
sided over by Sir Jeremy Morse,  
chairman of Lloyds Bank, and  
which includes the chairman of  
all four big clearing banks, is expected  
to discuss the idea at its next  
meeting in June.While at no stage in the dis-  
cussion did the Minister raise  
the controversial question of  
"windfall" profits made by the  
banks these are clearly relevant  
to the issue. All the bankers  
are conscious that the public  
outcry over profits increased by  
high interest rates has harmed  
their image.Some feel that a gesture of  
public benevolence may avert  
the future imposition of a  
special tax on their profits,  
along the lines of the recent  
revenue tax on oil companies.  
But the banks feel justified  
in making large profits in these  
inflationary times. They think  
they need to shore up their  
capital base which governs  
their ability to lend ever larger  
sums of inflated money.They also fear that, should  
they make anywhere near the  
kind of contribution suggested  
by the Minister, they would  
face even more wage pressures  
from the increasingly militant  
Banking, Insurance and Finance  
Union.The "big four" banks al-  
ready contribute money to arts,  
sport and community pro-  
jects: Barclays is sponsoring the  
D'Oyly Carte company's Gilbert  
and Sullivan productions; the  
Clydebank Savings Society and  
the Royal Shakespeare  
Company. The Midland Bank  
sponsors ballet and opera  
events as do National Westmin-  
ster and Lloyds Banks. Some  
sponsorships are directly ad-  
ministered from head office  
and others arranged through  
local branches.Even so, the arts budget of  
most banks hardly exceeds  
£300,000 a year for each bank.  
Business organisations in  
Britain last year contrib-  
uted between £4m and £5m to  
the arts. Should a trust fund  
of £500m be set up, the in-  
terest paid at current rates  
would amount to £100m a year.Mr St John-Stevens has already  
said in the House of Commons  
that he would be seeking greater  
contributions for the arts from  
the business community. In  
March, in response to a sugges-  
tion from Mr William Hamilton,  
Labour MP for Central Fife,  
that banks and oil companies  
should be approached to "dis-  
perse some of their ill-gotten  
gains", the Minister said he  
would approach such companies  
to "make an even bigger con-  
tribution to the arts."The Government's arts budget  
has been eroded by inflation.  
Last year, it rose from £133m  
to £163m, of which £6m was a  
new contribution to the National  
Heritage Fund.Generally City institutions  
think that they already contrib-  
ute enough to the arts. Some  
point to the Barbican Arts  
Centre, which will include a  
concert hall and theatre, built  
at a cost of £200m and financed  
by the City corporation through  
rates and grants. Many feel that,  
once the centre is in operation,  
they will have to sponsor most  
of the events.Mr St John-Stevens: told Com-  
mons he would seek backing  
for the arts from business.Britain may get more  
Polish ship ordersBy Peter Hill  
Industrial EditorPoland may be interested in  
placing further orders for ex-  
panding its merchant fleet with  
British Shipbuilders.Suggestions that further con-  
tracts might be negotiated  
emerged yesterday at the com-  
missioning of the last of a  
series of 13 ships built by  
Govan Shipbuilders on the  
Clyde as part of the controver-  
sial 24-vessel order, which has  
cost taxpayers £40m.The original deal was  
negotiated under the Labour  
Government and has proved  
embarrassing for British Ship-  
builders.It involved forming a  
joint Anglo-Polish shipping  
company to charter the ships  
for an important Polish state-  
owned company. British ship-  
owners remain worried about  
the impact of those vessels on  
the operations.At yesterday's ceremonies, Mr  
Mieczyslaw Kowalkowski, Lon-  
don representative of the Polish  
Steamship Company, said that  
Poland was considering placing  
orders for ships of about 30,000  
tons deadweight as part of the  
continuing modernisation of  
its fleet.We have been proposing the  
building of 38,000 tonnes and Ithink it would be a sad moment  
for us if we concluded our  
meeting by saying goodbye. I  
would like to see a next time  
but when that time will be  
up to the parties to  
negotiate."The channel for any negotia-  
tions would be the joint venture  
company whose directors are  
appointed by British Ship-  
builders and by the Polish  
state company.Similar sentiments were  
voiced by Mr Eric Mackie, the  
Govan chief executive. He hoped  
that this would not be the last  
Polish order but he said that  
any future orders would be  
taken at a much better price.  
He said the Poles had not  
"Rolls-Royce ships at a Ford  
price."The Government has already  
expressed concern at the terms  
of the original deal and any  
future negotiation will clearly  
understand the political problems  
for British Shipbuilders.Poland has developed sub-  
stantially its shipbuilding indus-  
try and the Polish order book is  
the fourth largest in the world.  
At the end of March it con-  
tained nearly 1.7 million tons  
of gross tonnage, a large proportion  
of which was destined for foreign  
ownership.Japan likely to continue  
curb on car sales in UK

By Edward Townsend

The pledge by Japanese car  
manufacturers to export "pru-  
dently" to the United Kingdom,  
which has meant in practice  
that they do not exceed a col-  
lective 10 per cent share of the  
market, may now be continued  
beyond the end of this year.Reports yesterday indicated  
that, while the Japanese con-  
tinued to argue that the restric-  
tion has left the field open to  
European importers, they are  
prepared to maintain a policy  
of restraint.Mr Tomio Kato, chairman  
of the Mitsubishi Motor Cor-  
poration, was reported as say-  
ing: "We do not think  
restraints are desirable but we  
feel they are a fact of life and  
they will continue." The  
Society of Motor Manufacturers  
and Traders in London said:  
"We expect that the Japanese  
will stick to their commit-  
ment."It had been widely felt that  
after four years of restraint  
the Japanese would not agree  
to further restriction after  
1980.During the first four months  
of this year the Japanese won  
just under 10 per cent of newcar sales in the United King-  
dom. In April, however, their  
market penetration rose to al-  
most 12 per cent and this  
prompted Sir Michael Ed-  
wards, chairman of B.L. to  
threaten to "bear a path to the  
Cabinet door" if Japanese im-  
ports continued to rise.Sir Michael came under at-  
tack yesterday from Mr Michael  
Carr, managing director of the  
Colt Car Company, which mar-  
kets Mitsubishi cars in Britain.The B.L. chairman, he said,  
should wake up to the fact that  
in the first four months sales  
of Ford cars imported from  
Spain were 68 per cent higher  
than the corresponding level in  
1979 with 32,244 cars registered.  
That was equivalent to more  
than half of all Japanese  
registrations.But Mr Octav Botter, chair-  
man of Datsun UK, said  
recently that there was no in-  
dication that the Japanese would  
wish to increase their share of  
the United Kingdom market in  
the future.Datsun claims that it could  
raise its share of the British  
market from about 5 per cent  
to 10 per cent by increasing its  
share of the United Kingdom market in  
the future.Despite a small flurry of ac-  
tivity after the discovery of  
Wyth Farm in 1974, few wells  
have been drilled. Only two  
were sunk in 1977, 10 in 1978  
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pect a total of 17 wells to be  
drilled over the next two years.  
Shell has a rig operating in  
Saffordshire, and Taylor Wood-  
row, as operator for a consor-  
tium active in Yorkshire, re-  
cently began an exploration well  
five miles west of Scarborough.

John Huxley

EEC check  
on dumped  
yarn claimFrom Peter Norman  
Brussels, May 29The European Commission  
today opened an anti-dumping  
investigation into imports of  
textured and non-textured poly-  
ester yarn from the United  
States.The decision to investigate  
follows a complaint to the com-  
mission by CIRFS, the EEC  
association of rayon and  
synthetic fibre producers, on  
behalf of virtually all manu-  
facturers in the community.The allegation of dumping is  
based on a claim that American  
domestic sales of these prod-  
ucts are being made below  
cost. As a result it is claimed  
that imports of United States  
non-textured yarn jumped by  
145 per cent to 13,719 tonnes  
last year to account for 14.3  
per cent of the EEC market,while imports of textured yarn  
advanced 267 per cent to  
14,446 tonnes to take just  
under 9 per cent of the market.  
According to the complaint,  
Community producers have  
been forced to reduce prices  
despite large increases in raw  
material costs.The Commission's decision to  
investigate the CIRFS com-  
plaints takes the dispute be-  
tween the United States and the  
EEC over synthetic fibre trad-  
ing a step further.Earlier this year, the EEC  
authorized the British Govern-  
ment to limit imports of poly-  
ester filament yarn and nylon  
carpet yarn after large increases  
in deliveries from the United  
States. Anti-dumping duties  
have also been imposed on  
acrylic fibres exported to the  
EEC by the American Cymelid  
company.The commission is negotiating  
with the United States adminis-  
tration over an American re-  
quest for compensation under  
article 19 of the Gatt treaty in  
respect of the limits imposed  
on synthetic fibre imports into  
Britain.

Trade complexities, page 20

Stock market relieved  
by better results

By Our Financial Staff

Better-than-expected results  
and encouraging statements  
from large companies relieved  
the stock market temporarily  
yesterday. After a last week  
bloody foreboding from ICI,  
Gusser Keen & Nettelfolds and  
Cadbury-Schweppes.At BICC's annual general  
meeting Sir Raymond Penneck,  
chairman, told shareholders  
that "sales and orders for the  
first four months have held up  
well" and he was confident  
that first half results would be  
satisfactory.But Sir Raymond added that  
recent weeks had seen a sharp  
decline in the level of United  
Kingdom business and a narrow-  
ing of margins both at home  
and abroad, which would  
affect the second half.Courtaulds pleased the stock  
market with a profits advance  
from £64m to £68m before tax;  
the shares added 2p to 72p and  
the maintained dividend con-  
founded earlier fears that  
profits might be lower and the  
dividend reduced.But Courtaulds had little en-  
couragement for future pros-  
pects with a warning that the  
increasingly poor trading con-  
ditions in the second half of the  
year were continuing.Mr Christopher Hogg, chair-  
man, said that the group was  
experiencing a drop in econo-mic activity all over the world  
and sterling







# If any mining house is going to do well, we will too.

## RESULTS

1979 has been a good year with steady progress and, with few exceptions, an improvement in turnover and net attributable profits on all fronts. Notwithstanding a record profit of only £150 million, re-expressed in terms of profits per share last year was still lower than they were in 1978, when the actual profit earned only £66 million. The contradiction to earnings, proposed dividend re-expressed in terms is the highest ever paid.

## DEVELOPMENTS

In the first half of 1979 we decided to acquire and re-open the Wheal tin mine in Cornwall. This company has in the past been a useful supplier of concentrates to our tin filter, Capper Pass. Good progress has been made with the reconditioning of the mine. It will resume production on a small scale around the middle of the year and should reach full output by the early part of 1981. We have decided to subscribe an additional £5 million to the capital of Tinto Rhodesia (soon to be re-named Rio Tinto Mining Zimbabwe), which we hold a 51% beneficial interest. The money will be used to finance a carefully defined expansion programme and includes the opening of two mining properties. This is a test of faith in the people who work for our organisation and in the integrity of the new Government. It is by support of this kind that it will be able to find a solution to the unemployment and settlement problems with which it is faced. Other developments include the trading of the aluminium smelter at Bell Bay, Tasmania, by Comalco, the expansion of the Lornex copper mine in British Columbia. In America, we have reached an agreement in principle with Codemin, a government agency, under which we are undertaking a programme of work to reassess the viability of the low grade porphyry ore body in reserves of over one billion tonnes, which would be developed by open pit mining. The viability of the project will, of course, depend largely upon copper prices, but on the basis of known existing copper properties in North and South America, Cerro Colorado must rank as one of the great potential mines of the future.

## EXPLORATION

In 1979 the Group spent £500,000 and in 1980 there will be a further increase. Exploration is the life blood of a mining house with its constant need to find new ore bodies to replace those that are being presently worked out. The Ashton

diamond venture is most exciting and most promising and it could come into operation earlier than predicted last year.

## WESTINGHOUSE AND ANTI-TRUST

As regards Westinghouse, there have been several important developments. The Court of Appeals in the United States has ruled that Westinghouse may not proceed in the Chicago case against RTZ, as a non-appearing defendant, until the case against the appearing defendants has been decided.

RTZ Corporation of America - a subsidiary of RTZ Borax - which was one of the appearing defendants in the case, has now been released from it.

The Protection of Trading Interests Act was introduced by the British Government towards the end of last year, received bipartisan support in Parliament, and reached the statute book in March. This measure reflects the British Government's fundamental objection to continued attempts by the United States Courts and regulatory authorities to extend the application of their anti-trust and other laws beyond the territorial limits of their own country, and it should, incidentally, further reinforce RTZ's position in the UK.

## RÖSSING

At Rössing the position has improved. In 1979 the technical performance of the plant was good, its rated capacity was reached and the company made a good contribution to Group profits. No tax was payable on the profits earned, no dividend was paid to any of its shareholders, but the result of the year's work was a strengthening of the company's financial position, some reduction in its debt and a better relationship between capital and borrowings. However, the same wearisome and unfounded attacks have been made on our operations there. We believe that

the development of the Rössing mine with its firm non-racial policy, its high standards of health and safety, its training programmes for semi-skilled, skilled and management levels, its continuing expenditure on and expansion of housing, hospital and health services, educational, social and recreational facilities, its establishment and financing of the Rössing Foundation, is bringing major benefits and opportunities, not only to its employees and their families but also to the country and the community at large.

I am convinced that if those people in responsible positions, who continue to make unfounded allegations about conditions there, were willing to accept an invitation to visit Rössing and judge it in good faith, they would find the situation there startlingly different from the one they are constantly asserting.

The political future of Namibia is still uncertain. It is to be hoped that present consultations will result in an early agreement for the transfer of the territory to a newly elected, independent and internationally recognised Namibian Government.

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

The year has started well as is only to be expected from the buoyancy of metal prices during the first quarter but during the last two months prices have fallen substantially - in some cases to below the average levels of 1979. Inflation still goes on at an unacceptable rate. The international situation remains uncertain and threatening. But morale is high; our mines are low cost producers and with our spread of activities, if any mining house is going to do well, we will too.

## CHAIRMANSHIP

As you will remember, the objective I set myself when I presided over my first annual general meeting in 1976 was to separate the two functions of chairman and chief executive and to

create two full-time top jobs. Last year I told you that during 1978 Mr Alistair Frame had been appointed chief executive. It must seem to have taken a very long time to reach a decision about my successor. That decision has now been taken. Sir Anthony Tuke, the chairman of Barclays Bank, who will be retiring from executive duties there in April next year, has accepted an invitation from the board to succeed me at the annual general meeting of 1981, in twelve months' time.

He will be joining our board in a non-executive capacity later this year. With his wide knowledge of finance and close relations with the countries in which our principal overseas subsidiaries operate, he will be of great value to the company and we are extremely fortunate to have secured his services. I am sure that with Sir Anthony and Alistair Frame, with their different but complementary experience, the future of the company is in good hands.

## THIRD WORLD DEVELOPMENT

I would like to say something about the development of the Third World and the role that the multinational companies can play. Few would dispute that the discipline and controls exercised by private enterprise are far stricter and tighter, giving far greater value for money and a far higher level of wealth creation. They have the technology and money and skills and, quite often, branch operations or subsidiaries in the countries most needing help. They would, I am sure, be prepared to provide advice and training as well. But to make progress, there must be a willingness on both sides to co-operate and those requiring help should beware of looking gift horses in the mouth, or demanding as of right the free transfer of technology, where educational standards are not far enough advanced to contribute to the development of that technology.

A few weeks ago the Brandt Commission Report was published. It explains the problems and stresses the urgency of their solution. It also recognises that a Summit meeting should be held, confined to a small number of the world's leaders, unsupported by their staff, to make recommendations for action. We already have an admirable example in the World Bank of the effective financing and supervision of major projects in the Third World. Perhaps their horizons could be extended, or perhaps some alternative agency could be set up. In either case, however, bilateral discussions on a clearly defined form and scope of assistance are required, if any of the progress which we all hope for is to be made.

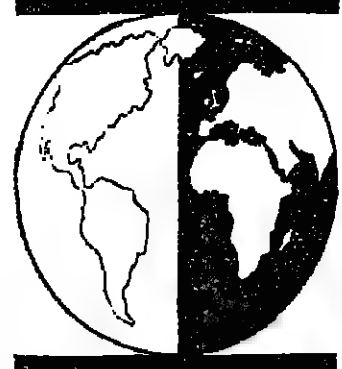
Mark Turner  
Chairman, 28 May 1980



**RTZ** The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation Limited

Sir Mark Turner's speech, the annual report, and fact sheets, are available from: The Secretary, RTZ, 6 St. James's Square, London, SW1Y 4LD.





## China will build own oil drills in \$200m deal

China will begin manufacturing its own oil exploration equipment, using production technology provided by Howard Hughes Tool Co.

The \$200m contract will enable China to produce its own drilling machinery within two years.

China is also expected to build its own drilling platforms at a coastal shipyard which will be constructed by Hong-kong-based foreign companies, who are now in contact with Canton authorities.

### Dutch production up

The Dutch seasonally adjusted industrial production index has been revised upwards to 118, base 1975, in March, from the provisional 117, central statistics office figures at The Hague show. The March index now shows an 0.8 per cent increase over February.

### Benelux deficit wider

The Benelux-Luxembourg Economic Union's trade deficit widened to 16,480m francs (about £247m) in January from 14,700m in December, the national statistics office in Brussels says. In January, 1979, the deficit was 10,340m francs.

### Smelter plans dropped

Saudi Arabia has dropped plans to build an aluminium smelter so as not to compete with plants in Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, Mr Ghazi Abdul-Rahman Al-Qusai, the Saudi industry minister said in Bahrain.

### Ford cuts van output

Ford Nederland NV of Amsterdam will stop assembling transit vans one day a week during June, following a decline in orders for the vehicle, a company spokesman says. The action will affect between 120 and 430 of the total workforce of 750.

## Conference reveals complexities behind clothing trade arguments

# Dress rehearsal for textiles talks

The developed countries and the Third World are making out their positions in future international trade in textiles and clothing in the face of the grim world economic outlook.

For the past three days in Brussels, a conference on trade in textiles and clothing, organized by the International Chamber of Commerce, has given representatives from all sides a chance to put their arguments in what amounted to a dress rehearsal for the difficult negotiations ahead.

Negotiations between Governments on the next extension of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, which provides a system of protection for producers in industrial countries against competition from developing ones, are not due to start in Geneva until the end of this year.

It is easy to think of textiles and clothing trade as a North-South problem but the Brussels conference uncovered more complex interests. It showed that there may not be an identity of interest between textile and clothing manufacturers in the developed world.

The garment industry in the developed countries has been far more affected by Third World imports than textiles, where strong import penetration has tended to be restricted to the less sophisticated natural products.

Only a few newly industrialized countries are challenging the west in the synthetic fabrics sector, but cloth exported by the developed nations to the Third World often returns as made up clothing, which affects the garment industry of the industrialized countries.

Representatives of retail and consumer organizations in the industrialized countries, including Mrs Rosemary Robert of the Consumers' Association in London, criticized strongly the protectionism in the present Multi-Fibre Arrangement for fueling price rises.

Mr Sol Chalkin, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of New York, expressed protectionist views that could have come from a hard-pressed industrialist.

But the textile and garment industry admitted that Third World imports would have to be allowed into developed countries in future. Some suggested discrimination against the newly industrialized countries in favour of the poorest developing nations and late arrivals in the international textile trade such as China.

About the only thread of unanimity at the conference was dissatisfaction with the way the present Multi-Fibre Arrangement has evolved.

The original objective of the arrangement, first negotiated in 1973, was to allow time for the textile and clothing industries of the industrial countries to adjust to competition from the developing world.

Part of the compromise came into force in 1974 before the world had been fully affected by the recession after the 1973 oil crisis. So the industrial countries agreed to allow a 6 per cent annual growth in imports from developing countries, subject to specific exceptions.

In the 1977 negotiations on the four-year extension of the arrangement the EEC obtained five years of bilateral agreements which curbed growth and curtailed further the growth of imports from developing countries.

Since 1977, the economy in the developed world has not improved. In many-made fibres the EEC has this year resorted to specific protectionist measures against the United States; its chief industrialized trading partner.

Although competitive pressure from the developing countries have forced rationalization on to the textile and garment industries in industrialized countries, these sectors are still large employers. Mr Chalkin pointed out that in the United States textile and garment manufacturing provide employment primarily for workers who are difficult to relocate in jobs either because of insufficient education and talents or because they are tied to the home.

Alternatively the textile and garment industries are suitable for development in Third World countries, combining the virtues of needing little start up capital and being labour intensive.

Political developments such as the Russian invasion of Afghanistan and the subsequent conduct of the non-aligned countries in the United Nations should encourage the industrialized world to attempt to meet the economic aspirations of the developing countries.

Whether such considerations will apply towards the newly industrialized countries such as Taiwan or South Korea must be open to some doubt when negotiations begin on the extension of the multi-fibre arrangement. It seems from the Brussels conference that this group of countries is particularly vulnerable to protectionist pressures in the industrialized world.

Peter Norman  
in Brussels

## Oil leads upsurge in fuel costs

By Kenneth Evans

Prices of heating oils and motor spirit jumped by 51 per cent in the domestic sector during the year up to the first quarter of 1980.

The sharp rise, which will continue after the latest state of Opec price increases, reflected an overall upsurge in fuel costs. These saw coal and coke prices go up by 25 per cent, against a retail price index rise of 13 per cent for the same period.

The statistics, contained in a survey by the Department of Energy show that the fuel price rises in industry were even higher. Heavy fuel oil went up by 52 per cent and coal by 28 per cent according to prices charged to 900 leading industrial consumers in the year up to the last quarter of 1979.

Gas prices increased by 21 per cent and electricity by 18 per cent against a 10 per cent increase in the wholesale price index of materials.

Britain's use of petroleum products slumped by 14.4 per cent in the first three months of this year.

## 'New dimension' of electronic mail

By Kenneth Owen  
Technology Editor

The "electronic mail" systems which are likely to appear over the next few years will not replace either post or telephone services, a London conference was told yesterday, but will provide a "new dimension" in communications through an expanded range of telex-like services.

Mr Roger Camrass of the Butler Cox consultancy said that the potential for electronic mail lay midway between the immediacy and informality of the telephone call and the formality and longer delivery time of written letters and reports.

Three broad types of terminal would compete in electronic mail—the telex terminal, the facsimile transmission device and the word processor. Each had both good and bad points: there was a need to develop an improved terminal which would combine the advantages of all three.

Over the next five years there would be a dramatic streamlining in the way a manager in one location could

"write" to another manager in another place, Mr Camrass forecast. In 1980 the sequence was manager/secretary/internal messenger/mail room/postal service/mail room/intergal messenger/secretary/manager. In 1985, with electronics, it would be direct from the first manager to the second with an intermediaries link.

Mr Camrass was speaking at a conference on electronic mail organized by Frost & Sullivan, market research specialists, and the Butler Cox consultancy. Mr Alex Eckerstrom, deputy head of planning staff at the Swedish Telecommunications Administration, described Swedish plans which included a hybrid facsimile-and-mail service; manual and automatic facsimile/telex services; and a public "Teletex" service, using word-processor terminals.

Mr Eckerstrom described an embryonic "electronic postal service" in which computer tapes from a company would be sent to a post office where the "letters" on the tapes would be processed, printed out and mailed to their destination.

## Societies unlikely to penalize savings

By Sylvia Morris

The Building Societies' Association said last night that it is not concerned by the Bradford and Bingley Building Society's scheme to penalize investors who use their ordinary share accounts like a bank current account.

The society is offering 7 per cent net of basic rate tax on such accounts, rather than the usual 10.5 per cent.

Although there has always been a feeling in the BSA that it is unfair to give the same interest rate to small savers making frequent withdrawals on their accounts as to the large savers who leave their money virtually untouched, there is no indication that other societies are planning to follow suit.

As the Bradford and Bingley move comes at a time when building societies are under pressure from operating costs coupled with disappointing net receipts on a month-to-month basis. Furthermore the composite rate of tax they have to pay the Revenue is likely to be increased from the current 21 per cent in August, backdated to April.

The Halifax, the country's largest building society, has approached the problem of operating costs in a different way. It launched a pilot scheme in Yorkshire at the beginning of March offering cash dispenser cards to its investors who make frequent withdrawals, a cheaper way of dispensing money than over-the-counter withdrawals. If the scheme is successful, the society intends to expand the service throughout the country next year.

## Is INMOS worth the investment?

From Professor G. Emery

Sir, You print today an article that puts most clearly the main arguments in favour of further state investment in the microelectronics venture, INMOS. On what might be called the "prestige" argument, I have no comment; the other, the "job creation" argument, however cannot really be defended. The manufacture of microelectronic components is highly capital intensive; so much so that it takes some 570,000 to create one job. So when Dr Peritz talks of creating 3,000 jobs in the region of £200m. One wonders whether such a sum could not be put to better use in the effort to create jobs. Nor is this all. The skills that INMOS needs are for the most part in very short supply; so whatever job vacancies it creates must be filled either by bringing in people from abroad, or by transferring them from

elsewhere in Britain, where their loss could well exacerbate the unemployment problem. It is true that there are a number of semi-skilled people engaged in assembly; but competitive economics have always demanded that these be in low-wage areas of the world, not in the industry's home country. Besides, there will be far fewer such workers in the VLSI field that INMOS seeks to enter.

I submit that if Sir Keith should feel impelled to do what everyone insists on calling a "U-turn", he would do far better to invest the taxpayer's money in some thing that could provide employment for ex-street-workers, typewriters, and automobile assembly workers. Your obedient servant, G. LYN EMERY, Department of Computer Science, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, May 23.

## We should learn from Mr Niarchos

From Mr R. J. Byatt

Sir, I was amazed and so what concerned at recent comment from some quarters regarding the Stavros Niarchos contract with British Shipbuilders.

Can Britain be so out of touch with the realities of the commercial marketplace as to expect special concessions from international entrepreneurs the calibre and ability of Niarchos when either we perform as specified or can negotiate properly in the instance. We would do well consider and learn from the differences in attitude between simply doing business and the fact of participation in an international arena.

The offer made by Mr Niarchos in *The Times* this week returns the vessel in question to British Shipbuilders, is a timely stroke and a testimony to his entrepreneurial character in the face of extreme pressure. I only wish that Mr Niarchos could communicate to us Britain his wide experience in business affairs, the concept which we have not yet a nation understood. Perhaps we would start at and not reacting. Yours faithfully, RAYMOND J. BYATT, 6 Summerhouse Road, London, N16, May 21.

## Reason for tax man's reputation

From Dr A. Leatham

Sir, The reputation of inept tax inspectors for fairness and accuracy seems to have a hard knock in the last day. One reason for this seems to be the incomprehensibility of some of the demands. Frequent there is no indication of the reason for the tax, no reason is given, a letter requesting information, and this in transmission to one's account often at peak periods of activities if this occurs at Christmas. Delay, which is the result of prolonged correspondence between the account and inspector, results in even more incomprehensible demand for interest figures which may bear no relation to the actual sums of. Furthermore the back data may be completely incorrect and is presumably related to the data when the debt should have been sent out was delayed owing to over in the tax office or to confusion between different offices. even worse problem is failure of the tax office check calculation made by the client. Recently I received statement indicating underment of tax by a figure £4,600 and I had a period considerable worry until accountant was able to show that I owed nothing and it was computer fiction.

It would seem that a radical reorganization is required. Yours truly, AUREY LEATHAM, 45 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DG, May 23.

## Insurance: freedom of choice is important

From Mr P. H. Stallard

Sir, It may well be true as suggested by the Secretary of the Building Societies' Association that higher rates of interest would have to be charged if the building societies did not receive the insurance commission, but that really is a side issue.

On the question of control this is easily satisfied by insurer's and insurance brokers noting the interest of the building society in any policy issued and giving undertakings to notify any lapse or alteration in cover. This is already being done in some cases.

Apart from mortgage contract conditions the building societies legal insurance interest is limited to the value of the mortgage advanced on the property. Freedom of choice is much more an important principle than the building societies will acknowledge. Currently one of the best household policies on the market is not available to any building society borrower merely because the

insurance company in question will not grant agencies other than to properly qualified insurance brokers.

On the question of claims it is not my experience that the settlement will be easier if handled by a building society, on the contrary recent experience indicates that in a claim involving both the buildings and the contents of the home the contents claim through our own office has been settled before the building society has managed to issue a claim form for their part. Commission to brokers is a reward for the service they provide to their clients and to insurers, the commission paid to building societies (at an enhanced rate) is for no service whatsoever to the policyholder.

PETER H. STALLARD, Insurance Brokers, 12 High Street, Stevenage, Herts, May 23.

## Slackness over detail

From Mr A. Wigram

Sir, It has recently come to my notice that a company is still receiving council agendas from Lambeth Borough Council in spite of the fact that we cancelled our subscription some five years ago and have not paid a penny since.

The agenda arrive about eight times a year. The postage cost is 27 pence, and the agenda itself, which is some 50 pages, must cost at least 50 pence to produce and package. Total annual cost to Lambeth ratepayers is thus approximately £5.16.

The sum itself is not large.

but it may well be symptomatic of a degree of internal slackness over detail which is costing thousands of pounds. This is disgraceful enough in times of plenty, but when people are losing their jobs and services are being cut it is a downright scandal.

Incidentally, increase in domestic rates in Lambeth this year is 61.5 per cent. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY WIGRAM, Clevebourne Investments Ltd, 6 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1X 8JT, May 27.

## Vivid reminder from Stuttgart

From Dr P. H. Lowe

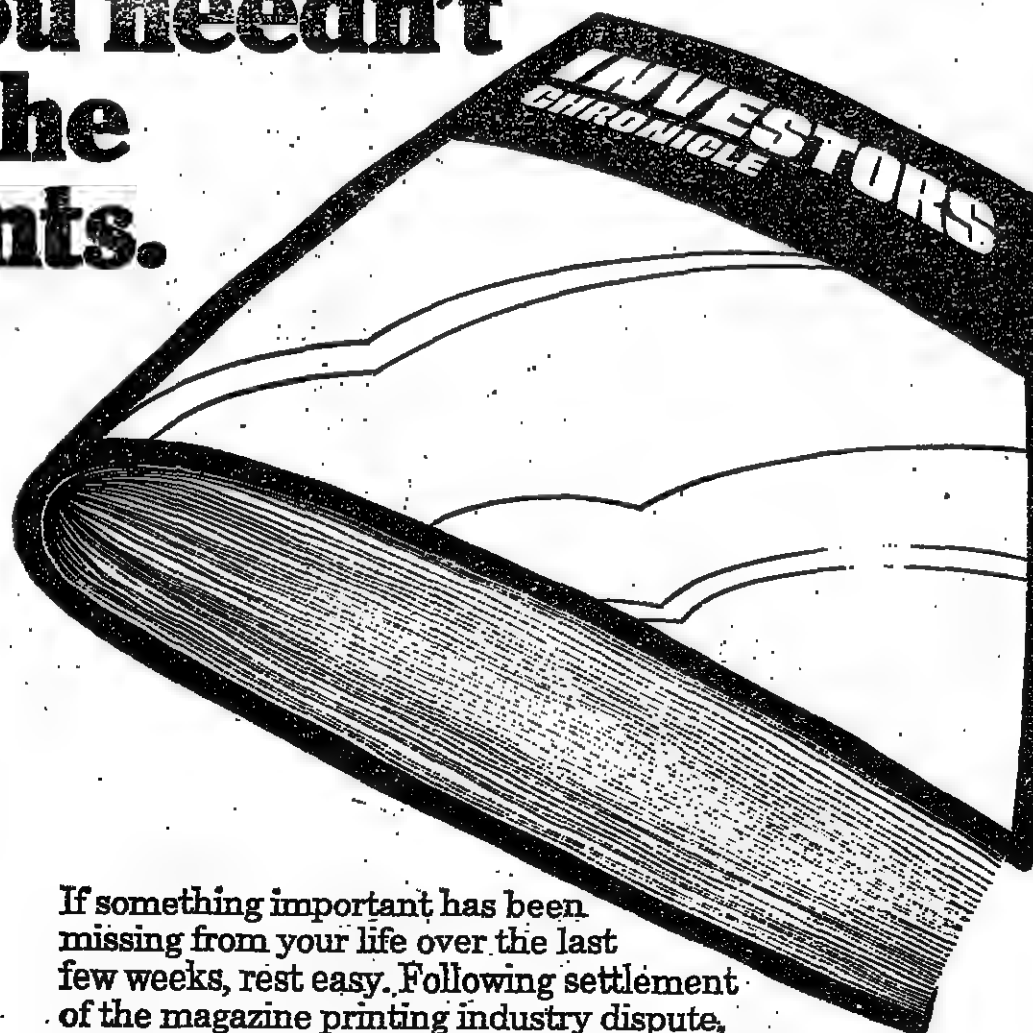
Sir, We often have the benefit of generalisations about West German and United Kingdom industries. A recent visit to Stuttgart furnished a vivid reminder of one basic aspect: The different standing of manufacturing industry in the respective countries.

An exhibition in a central thoroughfare — the Oxford Street, not South Kensington, Stuttgart — featured the roots of the current German industrial prosperity. The showroom

space was donated by a well-known local manufacturer. Effective displays reminded German shoppers that their prosperity depended on product and market innovation, better quality and lower costs. The organizers? The Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Dr P. H. LOWE, Department of Production Technology, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex, May 25.

# You may have missed the Investors Chronicle... but you needn't miss the contents.



If something important has been missing from your life over the last few weeks, rest easy. Following settlement of the magazine printing industry dispute, the Investors Chronicle is now back at your newsagent.

And we're back with a bang. Starting this week, we're covering all the important information you've missed. Five weeks of company analyses—crucial reading for investors, competitors, suppliers and customers alike—will be printed in full in a series of special updates over the next few weeks.

Otherwise, you'll find the same fact-packed sections on investment, finance and business that turns first time readers into regulars.

If you work with money, corporately or personally, and you haven't missed the Investors Chronicle, you can't know what you're missing.

This Friday's issue is a particularly good time to find out.

**INVESTORS CHRONICLE**

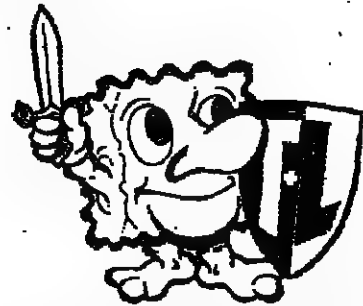
At your newsagent again—every Friday.

# TATE + LYLE

**'We continue to urge the British Government and the EEC authorities to take prompt action to restore fair competition in the UK sugar market.'**

## 1980—the first half

Extracts from the Interim Statement by the Chairman, the Rt Hon Earl Jellicoe



Pre-tax unaudited profits for the six months to 31st March 1980 were £9.2 million (1979 first half, including asset realisations: \$11.2 million)

Copies of the Interim Statement for the six months to 31st March 1980 may be obtained from J.E. Wright, Secretary, Tate & Lyle, Limited, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, EC3R 6DQ.

In the first six months of 1980, we were able broadly to hold our ground. Trading profit (£16.4 million) was significantly higher than in the equivalent period last year. If the 'exceptional' earnings from asset realisations (£4.9 million) in the first half of last year are excluded, we were, despite higher interest charges, able to make an improvement in pre-tax profits from £6.3 million to £9.2 million.

The trading climate in which we operate in the UK and overseas remains difficult. Within our businesses, we are maintaining the pressure to improve our competitiveness and strengthen our financial base and are making progress.

The EEC's delay in resolving the problem of excess beet sugar production in the Community is already seriously affecting the profitability of our UK cane refining operations. The African, Caribbean and Pacific sugar which we refine must not be squeezed out of the UK market by surplus beet sugar.



## BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Beecham comes back on course

of uninterrupted growth at indeed brought to an end in its performance in the suggests that this is only a erration. Profits for the year cent lower at £136.8m on a 11.4 per cent. But that masks the profits shifted at the with recovery to more or less in the second half despite pressure on export margins. Length of sterling left alone overseas profits on currency

of Beecham ever was course. There were special first half too, not least the quaterly toothpaste launch, in

chemicals trading remains flat ed price competition, piracy of major markets like Iran it there are bright spots too, new injectable anti-biotics has eived in Germany, the United pan products (with a contribution, the Bovril and Jovan acqui- ar) have experienced rather g and Beecham has managed g prices up, notably in the om, but even in more difficult s Germany.

ability to put up prices in the ult demand conditions and, so s are concerned, against a g rate will be the key to what year.

st's a fairly flat outcome, but res at 114p are attractive for um. Yielding 7.6 per cent on a ch. would still be 1.4 times current cost basis: selling at ings and backed by a strong on, they are an excellent e with real growth prospects ide.

only to Thomas Tilling in hanting, is once again going. But whereas in 1974-5 it times 98 per cent borrowed, goes in with borrowings of r only 18 per cent of share- Clearly, the timing of last issue, (one-for-five at 57p to as perfect. So was a stream- osals programme that fetched m and contracted the labour 00 to 6,500.

to February 29 UBM drove charges from £2.8m to £2.5m offits soared 104 per cent to ahead of outside estimates m. A 7.87p a share gross vered 2.2 times.

or the past: this year will e a serious downturn in rials 'business', but only a UBM profits given efficiency come. So, inflation adjusted, may not be covered by

d emerge from recession athed, and the shares at 58p, lay to yield 11.6 per cent, l. Neither Newarbill (8.1 per cent) capital for industry (10.3 e like selling. Both took up tlements.

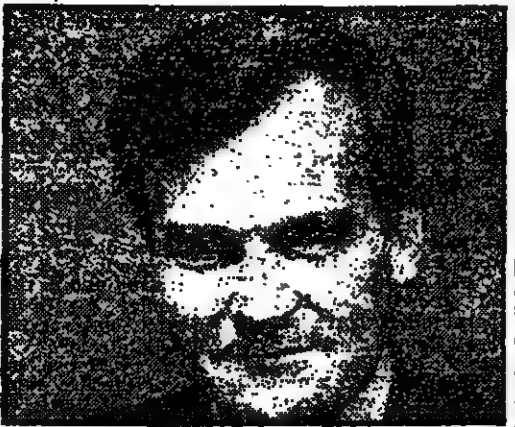
of lem . . . pre-tax profits to £68m and dividend: sent Courtauld's up 3p to 72p. But although the year to March 31 give a mporary relief to stockmarket errancy still facing the giant Industry are legion.

the problem is illustrated by sure and reorganization costs the line. During the year the om workforce was reduced by is unclear how much further ay have to cut back. Apart ous worldwide recession in

textiles, Courtauld's suffers more than almost anyone from current Government economic policy.

The rise in VAT and subsequent retail destocking was reflected in last year's downturn in trading profit from the consumer products division. High interest rates are painful for the group. Worst of all, the strong pound has hammered margins on £493m worth of exports and encouraged a flood of synthetic fibre imports from the United States.

The problem for Courtauld's is knowing whether to withdraw from relatively low value added export orientated product areas



Mr Christopher Hogg, chairman of Courtauld's.

which may or may not produce a decent return depending on sterling.

Despite a £74m capital spend—less than originally planned—the cash output was kept to £23m so the balance sheet remains reasonable.

This is just as well because Courtauld's may be pushed to maintain profits this year. In 1979-80 it only broke even at the pre-tax level under CCA and historic profits only rose because of loss-elimination and progress overseas.

Courtauld's trading profits are less than 5 per cent of turnover and the further strength of sterling since the group's year end will put even this slender margin under pressure. Against this background the shares need the 17 per cent yield for support.

## ICL Living with the competition

Despite all the usual worries about the tough competition from IBM, the end of preferential public sector purchasing in this country at the end of the year and whether co-operation on a European buying policy will ever see the light of day, ICL is continuing to show that it can live with the big league in the computer industry.

The going has become more difficult, however, in the current year. Although the progressive broadening of the 2900 series is enabling ICL to maintain its market share with volume more than a fifth ahead in the first half, tighter margins and a big rise in interest charges have pared back growth at the pre-tax level to a tenth at £20.5m.

That is well below the group's 20 per cent plus compound growth of the past decade, and even then the return has been inflated by £1.1m following an accounting change curbing the depreciation charge.

But it is the external environment rather than ICL's ability which is the main restraining factor. The strength of the pound has squeezed export margins while overseas profits have shrunk when converted back into sterling.

Financing demands are still putting a heavy strain on ICL with interest charges rising a third to £11.4m partly as a result of higher rates but also due to increased use of ECGD finance for exports and increased working capital. The £7.7m costs of the Dukinfield factory closure have been taken below the line cutting retentions from £11.2m to £7.3m.

Clearly much hinges on the exchange rate for the second half but the order book is strong and the new ME29 system has been well received. The 8.6 per cent dividend rise is a little disappointing given the high cover and the fact that ICL is one of the few companies that comes out slightly better on current cost accounting, pointing to a yield of 3.6 per cent at 130p.

ICL still looks capable of making £51m this year where the prospective p/e ratio of 7½ does little justice to the record whatever the uncertainties.

There is a national dilemma over the morale of tax avoidance and tax evasion. We might deplore them, sometimes finding avoidance more distasteful than outright evasion; but we equally seem to deplore the methods used by the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise men to overcome this particular variety of theft.

Almost three months ago to the day, the Government announced that it was setting up an independent committee to review the enforcement powers of the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise. The committee, said Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State at the Treasury, in a barbed and indeed slightly offensive tone which highlighted the dilemma, would be asked to weigh the need to ensure compliance with the law against the need to avoid excessive burdens on taxpayers.

A further concealed dilemma, of course, is that most of us, on a small scale at least, contribute to the black or hidden economy. There is not an odd job man to be found, or plumber or electrician for that matter, who does not repeat the litany of the self-employed: "But there's a discount for cash." And most people are more than happy to save money and hang being an accessory to this form of tax evasion.

The hidden, grey, black, irregular, subterranean or underground economy supports nearly as many definitions and size estimates as it does job descriptions. The one embracing perhaps is the one which says that it consists of all those forms of personal reward which do not appear in official audits.

But this is a catch-all definition, includes those succulent home grown vegetables helping the next door neighbour to put up a fence, informal fringe benefits such as use of the office telephone for personal calls and taking home a string of paper-chips as well as more obvious fiddling, moonlighting and failing to declare all one's income. It is particularly rampant from casual jobs, to the tax man.

Attempts to put a figure on the size of the black economy tend, however, to concentrate on the more obvious, largely illegal forms of tax evasion. (The irony is that much undeclared income would not be taxable anyway.) They also ignore the large-scale tax avoidance schemes where the "lost" revenue, to the chagrin of the tax authorities can run into millions.

Two years ago, Sir William Pile, the former chairman of the Board of the Inland Revenue, said it was "not in- plausible" that undeclared income might amount to 71 per cent of gross national product (GNP), or £11,000m at current prices with a corresponding tax loss of some £3,000m. More recently, the Central Statistical Office (CSO), put forward the more cautious assumption that the percentage was only 31 per cent of GNP.

This discrepancy, and there are others even wider, lies in the difficulty of measuring something which in one of its many names is known as the "hidden" economy. The most that economists can do, in the words of one of them, the American Mr. Edgar Feige (who believes incidentally that it accounts for around 33 per cent of GNP in the United States) is to track "the footprints unwittingly left in the sand by the irregular economy".

The methodologies range from analysing the gap between national income and expenditure statistics which show, even when adjusted by the CSO, that we spend more than we earn, so, where does it come from?

## Margaret Stone

## How big is the black economy?

Another well accepted method is to compare the growth of currency (or cash) with the growth in bank accounts on the assumption that in a developed and sophisticated economy, cheques, not cash should be increasingly used—and if not, then the extra cash is financing the black economy.

Mr Feige arrived at his figure for the American black economy by measuring the relationship between total transactions and observed income. He further refined his theory by including the increased durability of currency notes (increasing the number of times each bill could be used). This method has not been tried in this country, but Mr Michael O'Higgins, of the Centre for Fiscal Studies at the University of Bath, who recently produced a paper for the Outer Circle Policy Unit on the methods of measuring tax evasion, thinks it would be worth further investigation.

Of more dubious value Mr O'Higgins thinks is the evidence provided by the growth of high denomination notes such as £10 and £20 notes in circulation, which increased by 470 per cent between 1972-73 compared with more modest rises in both the aggregate value of all notes and consumer expenditure.

Taking inflation into account, it is after all more convenient to carry bigger notes to meet legitimate transactions as well as under the counter ones.

Another piece of conventional wisdom about the propensity for tax evasion among the self-

employed has also been undermined by Mr O'Higgins who finds that the discrepancy between the living standards, enjoyed by the self-employed (measured by the Family Expenditure Survey) and those in employment with the same declared income, can be resolved by using their declared income for the year.

The PES collects immediate expenditure statistics for both employed and self-employed, and immediate income figures too from the former whereas those for the self-employed are based on the most recent 12-month period for which figures can be given.

The self-employed are unlikely to be rehabilitated as tax saints instead of sinners as a result of this analysis and the National Federation of Self-Employed has not been slow to point out the "harassment" of its members following the Inland Revenue's new system of detailed checks on small traders suspected of tax evasion.

From the Revenue's viewpoint, the crisis of outrage, and themselves evidence of the success of this method—which has had a very high "hit" record, finding something wrong in 80 per cent of cases investigated.

But it is undoubtedly these methods plus the well-publicized dawn raids in both the recent Rossminster case and the construction industry's evasion attempts that have led to the Government establishing the committee to review tax enforcement powers. (Neither its terms of reference nor its members has been announced.)

The Revenue defends its use of the expanded powers given to it in 1976. The search and seizure rights, for example, has only been used 12 times and some nine cases have come or are before the courts. William Press, a Chinese restaurant chain and others which are subject to involve millions of pounds of tax lost—and maybe saved.

On the other hand, the Revenue too has a dilemma in respect of tax evasion. It certainly does not want its enforcement powers removed and is only too aware of the problems involved in increasing them. There is the law of diminishing returns to take into account and to further antagonize the public would be counter-effective.

Most tax psychologists inside, and outside the Revenue seem agreed that resentment is a great breeding ground for evasion.

Its five special offices, which know no boundaries within the Revenue structure, were specially created for looking at areas where the Revenue is at risk. There is some internal debate within the Revenue's own staff and possibly some jealousy at the regional level, and it seems likely that overall Civil Service economies will prevent expansion along this route which has proved most fruitful. In terms of tax recovered alone, it has in four years quadrupled to £20m.

But special offices, success or not, increased powers or not, most people would agree that the Inland Revenue has at the moment a nearly impossible task in policing the black economy.

The best it can do is to demonstrate the perceived effectiveness of its methods. In other words, create a deterrent by taking an example of an industry or tax evasion scheme (such as the lump) and hitting it hard.

It is doubtful whether tax cuts would help a great deal. Bad habits are always easier to acquire and most difficult to drop and we have got into the habit of fiddling the tax man. The only remedy which is likely to succeed would be to take many more people out of the tax net than are at present in it.

## Technology

## Age of the programmed cow

Cowherds are not readily associated with computers. But modern technology is no respecter of the traditional British way of life.

So while we can all rest easy that the muddy cow is not about to be overrun immediately by electronic hardware there is no doubt that the ever-falling cost of the microprocessor—which puts a microscopic computer on to a silicon chip—means that the electronic farm could soon become economically feasible.

That it is technologically possible is already being demonstrated at the Bridget's Experimental Husbandry Farm (EHP) run by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) near Winchester, Hampshire.

A herd of 260 cows, mainly Friesians and Holsteins, is being used at Bridget's to study how automation and computers can be applied to the dairy herd.

The cow herd is electronically controlled by a transponder which is worn as a collar by each cow. This transmits a signal unique to each cow and recognized by the computer. In this way each animal is individually identified; the level of food it receives is controlled according to the programmed diet. The milk yield is also monitored by the computer in a similar way.

The computer, which is housed in a room adjacent to the dairy, is linked to a display unit in the milk parlour where the herdsmen can call for a number of reports on each animal's diet, condition and yield. Lists of reports are collated as data for the day, the week or the month.

Further reports outline a list of actions that must be taken.



Photograph by Alan Davidson

## Micro-electronics at work at Bridget's Experimental Husbandry Farm, Winchester.

They could include medical treatment, or milk sampling.

Crops have also received the attention of MAFF's agricultural experimenters. Cereals, potatoes, peas and beans are all being studied in an attempt to refine the control of weeds, pests and diseases.

In conjunction with the Meteorological Office, an electronic microprocessor-based crop disease environment monitor (CPDEM) has been developed. Although still at the experimental stage, it could have enormous potential. The device, which could cost in the region of £500—£1,000, measures temperature, humidity and surface wetness every 20 minutes and its resident micro-

processor calculates the risk of any crop disease developing.

Each day weather information and its relationship to disease is monitored. The battery-powered portable device picks up the data from its sensors which can either be placed at strategic points around the farm or in the tractor itself. There are 40 Met-Obs stations in England and Wales capable of providing data and these could be incorporated into a national system.

Average temperatures during periods of leaf wetness are recorded, as are the daily minimum and maximum temperatures and the times of high humidity. From this information the risk of infection for diseases such as potato blight, apple scab and barley brown rust can be calculated.

The results are shown on a liquid crystal display not unlike that seen on a large calculator, although a printer capable of providing hard copy or a permanent record is easily attached to the unit.

Micro-technology is also moving into the basic labours of sowing and reaping. Monitoring and control devices, some of which are commercially available, could revolutionize the basic tools of tractor and combine harvester.

An example is the In-cab monitor. The work rate of a tractor can be calculated by taking a signal generated by an undriven wheel at the front or rear of the tractor and combining this signal with one defining, for example, the width of the spraying equipment. This allows the driver to monitor the rate of spray application.

Combine harvesters, the most common multi-function machines on any farm today, can also be equipped with highly sophisticated in-cab electronic monitoring devices which allow the driver to be constantly aware of his shaft speed, the condition of the grain tank and any grain losses.

On potato harvesters, X-ray and optical sensors are becoming

the fashion with forward speed controls being used as a method of ensuring that the separator operates at optimum capacity.

No matter how clever the micro-electronic systems devised for animals and crops, machinery their commercial future will depend, of course, on demand—and farmers are a notoriously conservative and cautious group of people.

But one area of new technology could perhaps catch on more easily than the rest. The new videodata and teletext systems—Prestel, Ceefax and Oracle—could be a highly efficient means of keeping the farmer updated with everything from technical information to the latest weather forecast.

Prestel, owned and operated by the Post Office has already 150,000 pages available on request from its computer store. The Ministry of Agriculture has rented 2,000 of those pages for a trial period and the Agricultural Development Advisory Service (Adas) is supplying information on 1,200 of them.

The subjects include land prices and rents, budgeting data and information on crop growing, harvesting and storage. One day with the service to Prestel by Farmers Weekly, the NPU and the Met Office among others.

The teletext systems—the BBC's Ceefax and ITV's Oracle—are more limited in their capacity but do provide a certain amount of detail on grain prices, pest control and crop disease.

The move towards micro-electronics on the farm is taken very seriously by Adas. It has equally emphasized to farmers that the adoption of such technology is not to be regarded as a luxury or a gimmick but its cost must be able to be justified on the grounds of increased efficiency.

Adas has set up a small working party to coordinate the industry's transition to the micro-computer and its related electronics.

Bill Johnstone

## Business Diary: BSC's job creator • French bourbon

of Webb—stealing to pick up cheques at the Corporation's own and Port C yesterday and a new man has to run its job diary.

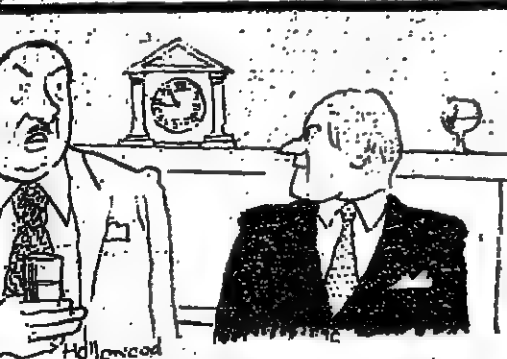
is to become the of BSC. (Indus- years ago to try ew activities and hose areas where has been close-

on Paddy Naylor ff to run his own ing in the same industry willing ght of high in- the chill winds oth Naylor and find themselves al... scope for reverse the tion company of een one of the operations in re- cially managing targets

t helped create in steel closure target of 5,000 targets is 10,000 has clocked up of 2,000.

has wide exper- corporate sector Metal Box, id IBM, said his priorities onfined to creat- ed opportunities

keen to ensure stries which BSC are ones which primers for



"What Europe does not realize is that Britain has already contributed handsomely to the EEC budget by launching the industrial revolution more than two hundred years ago."

● Sometimes it is very easy to feel sorry for the poor tollers of the Advertising Standards Authority who beaver away daily behind Heals in Tottenham Court Road, London

Take, for example, a complaint in the latest ASA bulletin against the mail order firm Aeonics. Part of the basis of the complaint was that Aeonics had advertised a brief case which featured two combination locks with one million permutations.

This, as all O-level students will realize, is perfectly true, because the combined number of possible permutations would be from 000 000 to 999 999.

But, complained two Londoners, the two locks were actually independent, so the actual possible permutations, as far as a would-be thief was concerned, totalled only 2,600. ASA upheld their complaint and Aeonics has had to amend their advertising.

● Urbane and better dressed than the average British business man, Patrick Ricard, chairman of Pernod Ricard, was in London yesterday. At the end of his visit, he was quietly imperfect English he makes an unlikely boss of a multinational enterprise but that is the role into which he is being thrust.

The thrusting is being done by the acquisition for US \$97.5m (£41.5m) of Austin Nichols in the United States from the Liggett Group. The acquisition came in the midst of the United Kingdom's own Grand Metropolitan's battle for control of Liggett and gave Pernod the look of some sort of anti-British operator keeping Grand Met from the juiciest chunk of Liggett.

"Non," said Ricard. PR started talking to Liggett at the end of 1978, probably the same time that the company was so the whole thing was just coincidence.

The real point is that PR has run out of growth in France and has been searching overseas for some time. AN, with its "Wild Turkey" bourbon whisky, looks like an ideal opportunity.

It also looks like a way of getting Pernod, hitherto a strictly European drink, into the United States. Britain is the biggest market outside France, taking 300,000 cases a year, evidently falling for its slightly sophisticated image. PR is so far uncertain about the United States but is convinced it is the place to be.

"Ah oui," said Ricard looking apprehensively at his interviewers.

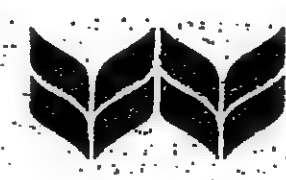
● Thomas Cook, a big name in the travel business but a minor in the package tour trade, was just announced its winter holiday prices which, for change, includes some reductions on last year's rates.

Cook's prices next winter are, on average, 12 per cent higher but the company is keen to point out that, for example, a package holiday to the Puntia Negra Hotel in Majorca is, on certain dates, £12 cheaper than last year.

The main reason is that at last Spanish hoteliers have realized that with their 60 per cent price increases to tour operators in the last three years, they are in danger of pricing themselves out of the market. Half of Britain's four million package holidaymakers still go to Spain, but growing numbers are being attracted to Greece, Portugal, Italy and the doubtful delights of Miami.

Who said the publishing world was on its last legs? Virgin Books, the imprint of record label king Richard Branson, has just signed up the American new wave poet and journalist John Stephen Fink to write the definitive version of the role of the chicken in cinema. Fink flies to Los Angeles next week to interview several leading directors and the publisher's chapters will uncover for the first time such topics as chickens in relation to war, and chickens and society, says Virgin Books managing director Maxim Jakubowski. Before joining Virgin, Jakubowski was, significantly, European vice-president of Continental Foods.

David Hewson



## Warren Plantation Holdings Limited

## 1979 HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Dividends increased by 21% to 10p per share.
- \* Pre-tax profits have improved over 400% in last five years.
- \* Joseph Mason earnings double to £1.6 million.
- \* Indonesia rubber and oil palm contribution up by 78%.

## Summary of group results (£'000s) to 31 December

	1979	1978
Turnover	29,250	22,699
Profit before taxation	6,787	5,800
Profit after taxation	3,071	2,821
Earnings per share	32.79p	30.92p
Dividend per share	10.00p	8.25p
Return on capital employed	33.60%	30.52%



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Blue chip results produce a small rally

Favourable trading statements from several blue chip companies were enough to produce a small technical rally in the market yesterday.

The session began again on a nervous note as dealers awaited full-year figures from Courtaulds and Bechtels. Prices drifted lower in quiet trading throughout the morning as investors looked anxiously for some kind of encouragement after the state of gloomy economic forecasts that had plagued the market all week.

It arrived shortly after mid-morning with the results from Courtaulds, which were a lot better than most analysts had expected and gave the shares a 3p boost to 22p. Further encouragement came soon after with figures from Bechtels which were also judged to be satisfactory.

As a result the technical rally which had been forecast all week by most jobbers arrived—but only just. However, mixed in with a bit of bear closing the 1.3 index managed to close 1.3 up at 417.8 after being 0.7 down at midday.

Wednesday's hangover continued in gifts where profit-taking and softening in sterling all went to push prices lower. In general, in longer sellers saw falls of between 1/2 and 1/4 with most issues closing at the bottom.

At the shorter end of the market, the rally was more aggressive, with a small rally in late afternoon, following a nervous start, leaving rises of about 1/2 to 1/4 on overnight levels.

Leading industrials had a better session than late with a rise of 5p in Unilever at 416p, while gains of 2p were seen in ICI at 352p, Glaxo at 184p and

Rank at 174p. Only Fisons, in a thin market, resisted the trend falling 5p to 252p.

But it continued to be trading statements which dominated the day's proceedings. A loss at the Berkeley Exploration appears to have struck it rich in the North Sea. Drilling on its block 15/30 discovered hydrocarbons at the cretaceous level with two independent sources confirming oil at the Jurassic level. Yesterday they climbed 5p to 193p with a statement expected to be issued within 10 days.

Interim stage and no dividend saw Thomas Borthwick fall 7p to a new "low" of 36p, while a profits setback wiped 5p from

Brunting at 24p. 2p from Exel at 159p and 3p from Proprietor's of Hay's Wharf at 155p.

Interim figures from ICI did not disappoint, but the shares slipped 1p to 130p. But better than expected performance added 4p to Sangers at 57p, 4p to Capper Neill at 55p and a similar amount to United Builders at 68p.

In drinks, interim profits from Greenall Whitley boosted the shares 6p to 185p, as Buckley's Brewery edged ahead 1p to 47p following full-year figures. But profit-taking clipped 3p from Bass at 215p in the wake of interim statement earlier in the week. Short-term working also left a cloud hanging over Distillers which dipped 3p to 187p.

Tate & Lyle again suffered from its disappointing trading statement earlier in the week, losing another 4p at 122p as Caravans International recovered 1p of earlier losses at 34p.

Spring Grove lost another 3p at 81p following the chairman's warning on Wednesday as Brest Chemicals 10p to 132p and Ladbroke 2p to 159p. But Coral Leisure improved 2p following its AGM although Richards & Wallington was not so lucky tumbling 14p to 37p ahead of its own meeting.

The recent cash-call and ensuing comment did little for Brown & Jackson, another 14p softer at 125p.

Profit-taking after a long run of bid speculation, left Robert-

soms Foods 6p lower at 113p and Polly Peck 2p easier at 50p.

In oils, the majors came in for further selling pressure as the account drew to a close with most attention focused on the more speculative second liners. BP fell another 6p to

Rumours of another large find echoed round the market following the Lasmo AGM yesterday. Drilling of the group's block 3.8 in the Ninian Field, of which it holds 30 per cent, continues ahead of schedule and appears full of promise. The shares rose 23p to 65p.

332p with Ultramar in close attendance at 332p. Only Shell up 2p at 376p could buck the trend.

Disappointment with the final drilling report from Humble left Carless Capel 5p off at 128p. Strata Oil was a little luckier with its gas find, which pushed the shares up 8p to 31p. But the management of the little duller, Tricentral fell 6p to 38p, as Premier climbed another 4p to 91p, following the bullish AGM from Lasmo in which it has an interest.

Electricals came in for another tough session with BICC falling 3p to 109p after a comment on margins as GEC slipped 1p to 34p, still reflecting fears over exports.

Equity turnover on May 23, was 136.27m (13.781 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Lasmo, Shell, RTZ, Premier, ICI, Courtaulds, BAT, Lee, Lee, Marks & Spencer, Unilever, Allied Breweries, Bechtels, BHP and BP.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Henry Ansbacher (F)	(—)	0.81(0.40)	0.77(0.54)	3.24(3.01)	21.8	6.12(5.4)
Beecham (F)	297.0(273.0)	136.8(144.0)	12.4(13.2)	—	—	—
B. Borthwick (F)	1.0(0.80)	0.59(0.56)	0.57(0.54)	1.61(1.3)	—	2.25(1.97)
Buckley's Brewery (F)	8.0(7.2)	0.55(0.76)	1.91(1.65)	2.45(2.34)	—	4.02(—)
Coalite (F)	336.0(278.0)	19.8(12.1)	19.8(16.15)	2.55(2.04)	25.7	12.23(12.23)
Courtaulds (F)	1,819(1,651)	68.1(64.0)	14.2(13.4)	5.67(5.67)	25.7	12.23(12.23)
J. Causton (I)	7.0(6.0)	0.7(0.50)	—	1.0(0.75)	3.7	—
Capper Neill (F)	97.2(89.8)	0.5(0.5)	14.4(16.2)	2.11(2.01)	10.7	4.2(3.18)
G. Ewer (I)	14.0(11.1)	0.31(0.27)	1.3(1.02)	1.9(0.5)	7.10	—
Exchange Teleg. (F)	12.0(9.7)	1.1(0.5)	8.0(6.8)	1.7(1.03)	—	—
Greenall Whitley (I)	88.4(79.4)	8.29(6.61)	11.9(17.28)	3.0(1.53)	18.7	—
ICI (I)	346.0(285.0)	20.5(18.6)	12.2(19.29)	0.95(0.87)	15.7	—
Int. Paint (F)	240.0(217.0)	0.02(0.027)	15.5(13.34)	2.8(1.86)	6.8	3.05(1.62)
Lasmo Corp. (F)	3.3(3.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Ladbroke (F)	—	9.8(8.3)	35.4(29.9)	0.6(0.6)	22.7	—
Normand Elec. (F)	16.3(14.9)	1.3(1.0)	10.9(9.4)	1.9(0.16)	22.7	3.0(2.3)
Prop. Hay's Wharf (I)	39.9(30.6)	0.02(0.2)	12.4(11.39)	1.5(1.77)	—	—
RTZ (F)	—	8.4(6.7)	5.9(4.5)	3.9(—)	4.8	5.3(4.7)
Priest Marquis (I)	0.49(0.45)	0.02(0.01)	—	—	—	—
Byamand Corp. (F)	1.4(1.3)	0.21(0.24)	4.9(5.5)	2.2(2.1)	—	2.8(2.7)
Sangers Group (F)	115.1(99.2)	1.13(2.2)	12.2(22.62)	4.5(4.38)	1.10	6.26(6.38)
Ultramar (F)	388.3(266.7)	6.7(5.8)	12.2(10.7)	3.9(4.7)	18.7	5.14(4.73)
Warren Plantations	29.2(22.6)	6.7(5.8)	32.7(30.9)	10.0(8.25)	15.7	—
Youngs Brewery (I)	20.5(19.1)	1.5(1.6)	22.5(22.9)	2.2(1.8)	—	4.3(3.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pound per share. Elsewhere in Business News are shown on gross basis. Dividend yield is shown in %.

Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net of tax. Losses are shown as minus.

## Coalite increases final as profits advance

By Michael Prest  
Coalite, the fuel, vehicle and distribution group, pushed pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March by 15.2 per cent from £17.8m to £20.5m. The final dividend was raised by 25 per cent to 3.66p gross.

Turnover rose somewhat faster, from £278m to £335m. But while trading profits were up by just 12.8 per cent to £19.9m, the pre-tax figure helped by a sharp increase in net interest receivable to £387,000. The favourable interest figure reflects Coalite's combination of relatively low borrowings and sizable cash balances.

In 1977 Coalite acquired 103p.

Cherrington, the fuel distributor, pretax profits in 1976, before the acquisition, were £8.8m. Since then demand for Coalite's smokeless fuel which was the company's main product, has fallen and risen again.

Final dividend raises the payout for the full year to 4.99p gross against 4.38p in 1975. Earnings per share rose from 16.15p to 19.93p. But a higher dividend commitment of £2.64m compared with £2.26m means that the holding company's retained profit was £4.57m against £4.83m.

The shares closed 1p up at 103p.

## Briefly

Henry Ansbacher Holdings: Pretax profits for year to March 31, 1979, £1.0m, against £0.8m in 1978. Board remains fully confident about group prospects.

Warren Plantations: Turnover for 1979, £29.24m (£22.69m). Pretax profits, £6.7m (£5.8m). Total dividend up from 11.75p to 14.25p.

London Sunlight Plantations: Turnover for 1979, £19.78m (£17.31m). Pretax profits, £8.81m (£8.93m). Total payment, 11.42p (£8.37p) gross.

Crystalline (Holdings): Sales for half-year to March 31, £7.53m (£6.66m). Pretax profits, £554,000 (£398,000).

Imperial Group expects to complete its takeover of Howard Johnson in the week starting June 16.

Guinness Peat Group confirms that Air Canada has acquired a 29.3 per cent holding in Guinness Peat Aviation. Shannon-based aircraft leasing and cargo business. Air Canada's total investment is £1.5m (£0.7m).

International Paint the Courtaulds subsidiary improved profits for the tenth successive year on the back of a strong rise in volume sales. Both turnover and profit rose by 10 per cent to £240m and £20.4m respectively. Net interest receivable was four-fifths higher at £1.7m. The year's gross dividend was raised by 15 per cent to 4.35p.

Double Eagle. The issue of 3m shares in oil exploration company, Double Eagle, was oversubscribed. Double Eagle is an associate of Warburton Resources and principal of the company is an associate of British and European institutional investors. According to Messrs. D. C. the Canadian stockbroker who managed the issue, this was the largest financing of this kind ever made on the Vancouver stock exchange and raised £39m. (£39m).

Pyramind Group (Publishers): Turnover for 1979, £14.1m (£13.36m in 1978). Total dividend, £2.14m (£2.00m). Total special dividend of 5p gross (compared with 4.5p in 1978) and 4.5p gross for 1978. Earnings per share, before extraordinary item, 4.9p (5.5p) and after extraordinary item, 8.8p (9.5p).

Buckley's Brewery: Turnover for year to March 31, 1979, £8.0m (£7.2m). Pretax profits, £1.02m (£805,000). Total gross dividend raised from 2.35p to 3.35p.

Young and Co.'s Brewery: Turnover for year to March 31, £20.5m (£19.18m). Pretax profits, £1.54m (£1.44m). Total gross dividend raised from 5.14p to 6.14p.

Whitby, Watson Holdings: board estimates that as a result of the steel strike, the reduction in profit for 1979-80 is of the order of £250,000. Pretax profits indicated at about £10,000.

Brunting Group: Because of excessively high interest rates pretax profits fell from £78,146 at March 1979, to £55,447 at March 1980, in spite of a 27 per cent increase in turnover to £36.02m.

Cortina Group has bought Consolidated X-Ray Service Corp., Dallas, Texas, Cost \$3.2m. and a further sum, not exceeding \$700,000, is payable under results for year to June 30 next are known. For first nine months, turnover of Consolidated \$9m, and profit, before tax, \$900,000.

George Ewer: Turnover for half-year to March 31, £14.06m (£11.1m). Pretax profits, £312,000 (£270,000). Interim dividend doubled to 1.42p gross. Second-half profits will benefit from interest savings brought about by fall in borrowings following sales of properties for just under £1.4m.

Thermo-Skylights: An agreement has been signed between Thermo-Skylights and Airport Development whereby the two companies will merge. The merger will be effected by Thermo-Skylights, an associate of Mac-based quoted company, acquiring Airport for Thermo-Skylights' ordinary shares and cash.

## Sangers Group profits fall by £1m

By Our Financial Staff  
As Mr George Robinson, the new chairman of pharmaceutical wholesaler Sangers Group, forecast in November, pretax profits to February 29, 1980, were almost half the 1978-79 level, £11.2m against £21.7m. Sales rose from £98.2m to £115.1m.

The dip was caused by tough competition in the industry after the end of resale price maintenance last year. Interest costs up £403,000 to £639,000 did not help.

Sangers' drastic rationalization of its pharmaceutical wholesaling interests is now completed and the full cost has been charged to the 1979-80 results as an extraordinary item of £40,000. This clears the decks for the current year, which will show an extraordinary credit of £250,000 from a court settlement in Sangers' favour, and any profits from the sale of surplus buildings.

After a £160,000 tax credit and the extraordinary item, the group's attributable profit of £64,000 allows a maintained dividend for the year, costing £607,000. The yield from the 9.1p gross dividend is 16.0 per cent with the shares at 57p.

Mr Anthony Godman, finance director, says the maintained dividend is a sign of the group's confidence now, although pharmaceutical wholesaling remains highly competitive.

The retail optics side is going well, and will have £2m spent on it this year. Photographic wholesaling now makes a "significant" contribution to group profits.

By Our Financial Staff  
At a time when others regard industrial leasing as high-risk business, particularly since the last Budget reduced its attractions, cash-rich Saga Holidays has decided to venture into it.

It aims to have contracts worth £2m by its year-end next month. Saga, which came to the market in March 1978, sells British and cruise holidays to the overseas market.

Advance payments for holiday and on deposits, and provided roughly three-quarters of £10.5m total cash on deposit as June 30, 1979. The income from that produced £678,000 of the group's £1.15m interim profit at the end of December.

Saga always ends up paying the full 52 per cent corporation tax rate, and it is in an attempt to reduce this that it is now going into leasing. The cost of the assets it will have to buy in order to lease them out will be allowed against tax. Once leased, the plan is to make the maintenance, insurance and related costs of the equipment the responsibility of the lessee.

Saga intends its customers to be "prime UK industrial companies" and contracts will range from three to five years. If the venture is successful, it will be developed "broadly in line with the company's profitability."

Bejerinvest/Cayenham

President of Bejerinvest has announced that acquisition of Felix from Cayenham had been completed. He also said that the venture is successful, it will be developed "broadly in line with the company's profitability."

## Coral negotiating sale of hotels

By Catherine Gunn  
The Coral Leisure group is close to selling a controlling stake in its Centre Hotels subsidiary to an international hotel group, which would also take on the management of the hotels. The Old Kentucky restaurant chain is not included in the deal.

Negotiations continued after the group's annual meeting yesterday, at which Mr Nicholas Coral, the chairman, surprised carefully round the issue of the group's challenged casino licences: explained a £200,000 golden handshake to Sir Fred Pontin; and spoke of contingency plans should the group's licences be lost. No details were given.

The loss of the licences would cost the group some £10m in profits — compared with a £31.1m group total in 1979. The Metropolitan Police and the Gaming Board are seeking the cancellation of the four London licences, and the Gaming Board is objecting to the renewal of the provincial ones. Three of the London licence hearings are scheduled for July 7. Some other hearings have been postponed until later.

The police returned the accounting records of Coral Casinos (UK) only last week. Their absence since early November led to a qualification of the 1979 accounts by the auditors who were re-appointed yesterday.

The hotel deal is part of a drive to reduce group borrow-



Mr Nicholas Coral (left) with Mr T. J. Hemmings, chairman and managing director of Pontins, at yesterday's meeting.

ings, which totalled £54.4m gross at January 3 "by the sale of assets". Free cash thereafter is likely to go into expansion of the betting side, and possible acquisitions.

Meanwhile the United States venture into Atlantic City gaming is in abeyance. Coral has an arrangement to surrender its management contract there if necessary, in return for its 30 per cent stake in Hardwick being taken off its hands "without loss".

## BICC doubts on second half

At yesterday's annual meeting of BICC, Sir Raymond Pennock, the chairman, warned shareholders that in the last few weeks there had been a sharp decline in the level of United Kingdom business and a narrowing of margins both at home and abroad. "These must be expected to affect adversely our performance in the second half of the year," he said. For the first half, however, the board remains confident that the results will be "satisfactory".

First-half progress at Hay's Wharf

On turnover up from £30.6m to £39.9m, pretax profits of The Proprietors of Hay's Wharf expanded from £2.26m to £2.98m in the first half to March 31.

As predicted at the time of the rights issue last July, the interim payment is being boosted from 2.45p to 3.68p gross. The board reports that in the second half-year there are signs that there will be a "text in demand for those group companies in storage, distribution and bottling. In the longer-term, earnings should benefit from the current capital expenditure programme and from disposals of low-yielding assets.

## Oil revenue boost for Charterhouse Group

At the annual meeting of the Charterhouse Group, Mr Nigel Mobbs, the chairman, reported: "Despite somewhat pessimistic business conditions, I am pleased to be able to report that the group's results for the first three months of the current year have exceeded expectations and, therefore, I feel confident that, subject to no unforeseen circumstances, the group looks forward to a better year for profits in 1980 which should again be materially assisted by increased oil revenues even though such profits are more highly taxed than other profits."

The oil investments of the group are an important element in the group's present and future prosperity. Charterhouse intends to obtain a listing for Charterhouse Petroleum Development in the summer in a manner that will enable the company to be further developed to the overall benefit of the Charterhouse Group and its shareholders by retaining between 40 and 49 per cent of

## Over £3m profit from Extel

Exchange Telegraph (Holdings)—Extel—the wide-ranging communications group which now includes Roys Advertising, reports a 21.5 per cent increase in pretax profit to £3.1m for the year to March 31, 1980. Turnover topped £72m, compared with £24.73m for the previous year—adjusted to include the restatement of advertising turnover in terms of billings. Earnings per share are up 9.5 per cent to 18.4p. The total dividend, gross, goes up from 8.76p to 10p a share.

## Lasmo reinsurance: on Ninian Field reserves

Speaking at the annual meeting of London & Scottish Marine Insurance Co. Ltd., the chairman, said that the board saw no reason to downgrade the reserves of the Ninian Field, nor does it see significant reservoir problems developing as has, from time to time, been mentioned in the press. Lasmo's cashflow continues to be strong.

## Capper Neill dips as interest burden tops £1m

By Our Financial Staff  
The Capper Neill company, Capper Neill, suffered a slight decline in profits in the year to March 31. Profits, before tax, fell from £5.5m to £5.1m on turnover up from £89.9m to £97.2m.

The board points out that at the trading level, profits of £624m were marginally higher than last year's £617m and the shortfall at the pretax level was due to interest charges up from £638,000 to £1.16m. The figures represent the first interruption to the company's profits growth since 1972-73.

Capper Neill suffered from the prevailing economic difficulties as well as the steel and engineering strikes.

Site construction engineering which is the main group activity performed well, with

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 12

## The Over-the-Counter Market

1979/80 High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Div/100	Yld	P
99	60	Airpro Group	62	—	6.7	10.8	—
50	26	Armstrong & Rhodes	27	—	11.2	—	—
277	185	Bardon Hill	77	—	13.8	5.0	—
100	78	County Cars Pref	79	—	15.3	19.6	—
101	63	Deborah Ord	93	—	5.0	5.4	—
125	68	Frank Horsell	123	—	7.9	6.4	—
129	98	Frederick Parker	98	—	12.8	13.1	—
156	102	George Blair	105	—	16.5	15.7	—
73	45	Jackson Group	73	—	5.2	7.1	—
153	105	James Burroughs	105	—	7.2	6.9	—
300	242	Robert Jenkins	297	—	31.3	10.5	—
232	175	Torday Limited	225	—	14.3	6.5	—
34	111	Twinkl	111	—	6.5	6.4	—
80	20	Twinkl 12% ULS	72	—	12.0	16.7	—
56	23	Unilock Holdings	48	—	2.6	5.4	—
50	45	Unilock Holdings New	45	—	—	—	—
99	42	Waher Alexander	92	—	4.4	4.7	—
210	136	W. S. Yeates	210	—	12.1	5.8	—

\* Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15.

## Open Letter to the Shareholders of George Ewer &amp; Co. Limited ("Ewer")

Ewer shareholders will by now have received Mr Ewer's letter of 23rd May; and, perhaps, may have obtained a copy of the offer document for Eastern Tractors (Holdings) Limited ("Tractors").

There are a number of questions about the Tractors' deal that may need answering:

1. Mr Ewer refers to our being critical of Tractors' 1979 profit of £10.35p. We are even more critical to see that the figure attributable to shareholders for the year was a LOSS of £34,000. Yet this doesn't emerge in Mr Ewer's letter. WHY NOT?
2. Mr Ewer's letter refers vaguely to better things in store. He writes: "As a result of the purchase we believe that the Ewer Group will be more broadly based with greater profit potential." WHAT EXACTLY DOES THIS SENTENCE MEAN IN TERMS OF EWER'S PROFITS?
3. Mr Ewer seeks to justify issuing 2.5m Ewer shares for Tractors by referring to preserving your Company's borrowing ability. WHY DID HE NOT TELL HIS SHAREHOLDERS OF THE BORROWINGS OF TRACTORS, WHICH THE EWER GROUP WOULD TAKE ON BOARD. These, at 31st August, 1979, were WELL OVER £2m. Furthermore, Tractors is, by its Acting Chairman's own admission, sparsely capitalised, since he states that "in the event that Eastern Tractors remains an independent company, your Directors would not be able to recommend a dividend in respect of the year ended 31st August, 1979". As it stands under Ewer's friendly umbrella, dividends totalling £5,00







ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, May 12. Dealings End, Today § Contango Day, June 2. Settlement Day, June 3  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

**\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

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# Motoring

## More, much more, from Japan

A week spent looking at the motor industry in Japan has left two indelible impressions: the appalling and seemingly permanent traffic congestion in Tokyo and the clean, highly automated factories turning out yet more cars at a relentless rate.

Tokyo sounds an awful warning of how the motor vehicle can strangle a city. I spent an hour in a road one afternoon covering no more than a couple of miles, and through the locals tried to dismiss this as untypical, there were still jams at 10 o'clock at night.

But while Tokyo has more cars than it can cope with, despite the building of flyovers which are thought elegant enough to put on picture postcards, new vehicles are coming off the line in greater numbers than ever. Japanese car output has trebled since 1968, and last year topped six million units.

For the British observer the striking thing is not so much the total itself, but the efficiency with which it is achieved. Strikes, of course, are virtually unknown. I wondered at one plant when production had just been stopped by a withdrawal of labour. The Japanese managers chuckled, searched their memories and worked out that it was 31 years ago.

This ability to stay at work has been coupled with a far greater willingness than in Europe to adopt the latest production techniques. Mitsubishi, whose cars sell in Britain under the Colt name, has doubled its vehicle output in the past 10 years with almost the same workforce, thanks largely to automation.

I saw two examples of this in Mitsubishi factories. The Shiga engine plant began production only five months ago, and must be one of the most mechanized in the world. When working to full capacity it will be making 350,000 1.3 and two-litre engines a year, with only 140 line workers. Walking up and down the lines was an eerie experience, since there were so few people about.

At the Okazaki assembly plant, which is 80 per cent automated, I watched Sigma Sapporo and Celeste cars coming off the line at the rate of one every two minutes, and was told that that would eventually be stepped up by half. At the moment the plant is producing about 150,000 cars a year with just 1,100 production workers.

Before getting too starry-eyed, one must say that automation is not uncommon in European car plants these days. Even in Britain, BL can boast one of the most modern assembly facilities at Longbridge, where robots will soon be hard at work turning out the Mini Metro. Ford's new engine plant at Bridgend, which is a much bigger affair than Shiga, also features the latest automated technology.

But it will be surprising if either of these British factories runs on anything like Japanese manning

levels. In Japan, the workforce seems generally to accept automation rather than regarding it as a threat. The discipline of the Japanese worker derives from a hierarchy of loyalties that still binds society: of wife to husband, of citizen to state, of worker to company. If workers want to protest against their pay and conditions they wear black armbands: they do not stop the line.

And yet I got the feeling that the super-efficiency of Japanese car plants had almost become an end in itself. So far the car industry of Japan has had everything in its favour: starting late and being able to copy from others and virtually

shutting out competition at home while making easy conquests in the markets of western Europe, notably Britain, and the United States.

The question is how long this giddy ride of growth can be sustained. The congested streets of Tokyo are evidence that the home market cannot go on absorbing new cars at the same rate indefinitely, and there are rumblings from abroad where just over half of Japanese output is sold.

Last week Mr Neil Goldschmidt, the United States Transportation Secretary, gave a strong hint that America might be forced to cut imports of Japanese cars while



Car engines coming off the line, Shiga plant in Japan

domestic factories were working so far below capacity (new car sales in the United States this year are down by 22 per cent). He made his remarks in Germany, where Trans-World Industries said the underfoot American position, but added that it must not lead to more Japanese cars being sold in the European Community.

Faced with this twin threat, the Japanese car industry may try to flood its export markets before the shutters come down. That could have implications for Britain, where Japanese acceptance of a "prudent" marketing policy has kept sales at more or less the same percentage level for the past four years.

Certainly Japanese car makers are becoming increasingly unhappy about their arrangement, feeling with some justification that they have been made a scapegoat for the failures of the British car industry.

On the other hand, Japan is sensitive to the huge imbalance in its motor trade with the outside world, and only 60,000 foreign cars were sold there last year in a market of just over three million, and does not wish to be deliberately provocative.

As far as Britain is concerned, my guess is that when the existing understanding on restraint expires there will be another form of words, probably less than hitherto but still not giving Japanese car makers the green light to send as many cars here as they think they can sell.

**No comment**

Getting information in Japan can be a frustrating process and not just because of the language barrier. At the end of my visit, for which they had been the hosts, Mitsubishi gave a press conference. It was no ordinary conference, the company putting up more than 20 of

their top men who easily outnumbered the British journalists.

All questions had to be submitted in advance in writing. They were then read out at the conference, translated and fed along the long line of Mitsubishi executives. Even the most innocuous factual inquiry was chewed over by up to half a dozen men before the reply came back through the interpreter.

In the two hours allotted for the meeting, barely 40 minutes were spent putting questions and receiving answers.

In spite of our best efforts, Mitsubishi gave little away. Did the company plan to assemble cars in Europe, perhaps in the Irish Republic? A smiling Dr Tomio Kuba, chairman of Mitsubishi Motors, said they had not thought of it in the newspaper, but there was nothing about it.

What about buying components for Mitsubishi cars in Britain? In the past 13 months, we were told, the company had been looking very seriously at purchases in Europe and the United States and had got estimates for 74 items. But half were too expensive and the other half had fallen short on quality.

In mitigation of this damning verdict, however, Mitsubishi announced that it had agreed its first purchases from Britain, headed by rear windows to be supplied by Triplex. It would probably be buying oil filters from AC Delco and was considering five more British products.

Our pocket calculators reckoned that all these deals came off, the total value would be modest £1.5m a year. A flash in Japan?

Speculating on possible alternatives to the petrol engine, Mr Tadashi Kobayashi, head of product planning, thought that the most promising were the gas turbine or

the Stirling engine. He did not hold out much prospect in Japan at least, for electric cars and saw no dramatic growth, either in Japan or in Europe, in the diesel car market.

We ended by raising the prickly question of why so few foreign cars sold in Japan. Mr Yoshihiro Sone, president of Mitsubishi Motors, brushed aside the idea that Japan sets up bidden barriers to imported vehicles, conceding that a different distribution system made it difficult for importers to establish themselves and said, bluntly, that if European car makers wanted to compete on equal terms they must look to their productivity. We took the point.

**Muted turbo**

Mitsubishi cars are mostly the conventional Japanese fare, well built and well equipped, though the 1400 hatchback with its eight-speed "super shift" gearbox has demonstrated a readiness to experiment.

In Japan the company has recently launched a new version of the Corolla, the Sigma/Sapporo range, featuring a restyled body with more room inside and better interior appointments.

I had the chance to drive the cars briefly and was particularly interested in the 2.3 litre turbo diesel, the first "blown" diesel to be produced in Japan. As it seemed to have been so strangled by the need to meet the fierce Japanese emission laws that performance was modest, it is unlikely to be sold in Britain unless it is imported by a specialist dealer. But the petrol-powered Sigma/Sapporo should be here in the autumn.

**Peter Wayman**

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- 1793 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1792 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1791 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1790 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1789 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1788 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1787 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1786 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1785 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1784 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1783 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1782 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1781 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1780 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1779 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1778 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1777 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1776 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1775 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1774 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1773 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1772 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1771 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1770 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1769 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1768 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1767 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1766 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1765 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1764 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1763 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1762 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1761 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning, electric sunroof, radio/cassette.
- 1760 V 720i, 10,000 miles, air conditioning







